INDICATOR 61

DATA REPORT

Scope, Frequency and Statistical Reliability of Forest Inventories, Assessments, Monitoring, and Other Relevant Information

Overview and compilation by W. Brad Smith

OVERVIEW

The 2003 National Report on Sustainable Forests was designed to provide Americans with information on the Nation's progress toward sustainable forest management. It is intended to provide information on the public's ecological, social, and economic concerns regarding forests. This information, however, has never been available in one document, and it is hoped that citizen and government use of this report will improve the quality of the national debate and highlight the need for the organized collection of current, reliable data.

The concept of criteria and indicators generally has been accepted as an appropriate framework for evaluating the status, condition, trends, and prospects for the Nation's forests based on measures of biodiversity, productivity, health, carbon dynamics, and socioeconomic aspects. The first requirement of such an evaluation is a basic set of data for the indicators. The second requirement is knowledge of the currency and reliability of the data. The purpose of this summary is to profile the adequacy of data for each of the indicators.

There are seven criteria and 67 indicators. The indicators of criteria 1-6 address biological diversity, the productive capacity of the forest, the health of the ecosystem, soil and water resources, global carbon cycles, and the social and economic benefits that come from the forests. The indicators of criterion 7 address the legal, institutional, and economic framework for supporting forest conservation and sustainable management.

To the extent possible, published and peer reviewed data were used in the preparation of these reports. Data for the indicators range from full current coverage to one-time studies, to anecdotal information. By looking at a cross section of the information in three broad categories – coverage, currency, and frequency-a brief overview of the situation for each indicator can be evaluated.

Although information is available for most of the indicators, few indicators have a full range of data that is current, national in scope, and collected frequently. And, there is no system for maintaining current information across broad suites of indicators in an organized manner. The most striking pattern in the summary is the lack of adequate data for many indicators. There is, however, at least anecdotal data for most of the indicators providing a core knowledge base from which to build in most cases. Therefore, program infrastructures may be in place that simply has to be mandated and funded to collect and report the needed information.

The most reliable data are found in criterion 2, which has data supplied mainly by the Forest Service Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA) program, which has been collecting basic statistics on the Nation's forests for over 70 years. In general, criteria 1 through 5, representing physical measures of ecosystems, have the best information with the greatest deficiency being frequency of data collection. The deficiencies in criteria 6 and 7 tend toward a lack of current data and poor frequency of data collection. Overall, an organized approach at the national scale is lacking for repeated collection of quality data to underpin critical trend analysis. Thus, constructing a coherent picture of the sustainability of the Nation's forest resources is difficult owing to the inadequacy of much of the data.

A chart summarizing coverage, currency, and frequency for all indicators is followed by a more detailed summary for each indicator including published and unpublished references.

Indicator Data Status Summary

Indicator 61- Scope, frequency, and statistical reliability of forest inventories, assessments, monitoring and other relevant information

What is the indicator and why is it important

Public discussion and decisions related to natural resource sustainability issues should be based on comprehensive, current and sound data. Information regarding the frequency, coverage, and reliability of data provides analysts with critical information for evaluating and prioritizing sustainability needs.

What the data shows

Data for the 67 indicators range from full current coverage to one-time studies, to very anecdotal information. By looking at a cross section of the information in three broad categories a brief overview of the situation for each Criterion can be seen. Few indicators have a full suite of data that is current, national in scope, and collected frequently. The most persistent gap is the lack of systematic national data collection for many indicators. Given the numerous gaps, all data presented are considered reliable as the best data currently available. The following table summarizes the status of each indicator.

KEY			
Notes on the rating system: This rating provides a general overview of the data supporting the indicators. Green means few gaps, yellow means several gaps, red means no data or numerous gaps, and purple indicates data that has been modelled.	Data coverage	Data currency	Data frequency
Data generally complete nationally, current, and relaible.	National	1997+	Annual to < 5-year
Data may not be complete and consistent nationally, slightly dated, or not measured frequently enough.	Regional or some	1980-96	5+ year Periodic
Data are from inconsistent sources or non-existent, more than 15 years old, or have no consistent plan for remeasurement.	Varies or incomplete	Incomplete	One-time or incomplete
Data are modelled [currency and frequency dots refer to model baseline data]	Modelled		

			Data status		
Criterion		Indicators	Coverage	Currency	Frequency
1 Conservation of	1	Area of total land and forest land by type			
biodiversity	2	Area of forest by type and age			
	3	Area of forest by type and IUCN category			
	4	Area of forest by type, age, and IUCN			
	5	Fragmentation by forest type	0	0	
	6	Number of forest-dependent species		0	
	7	Status of forest-dependent species			
	8	Number of forest-dependent species in restricted range			
	9	Population levels of representative species	0	0	
2 Maintenance of	10	Area of forest land & timberland available for timber production			
productive capacity of	11	All live and growing stock volume			
forest ecosystems	12	Area and growing stock in plantations			
	13	Annual removals for products vs. sustainable volume			
	14	Removals of nontimber products vs. sustainable levels			
3 Maintenance of forest	15	Area and percent forest damaged by insect, disease, fire, flood, etc			
ecosystem health and vitality	16	Area and percent forest affected by airbourne agents [nitrate, ozone, etc]		<u> </u>	
	17	Area and percent forest with diminished biological components	0		
4 Conservation and	18	Area and percent of forest with significant soil erosion			
maintenance of soil and water resources	19	Area and percent of forest managed primarily for for protective functions	•	•	•
	20	Percent of stream kilometers in forested catchments			
	21	Area and percent of forest with significantly diminished soil organic matter	0	0	0
	22	Area and percent of forest with significant soil compaction	0		
	23	Percent of water bodies in forested areas with sig. change in biodiversity	•	•	•
	24	Pct of water bodies in forested areas with sig. change in hydro. character	•	•	•
	25	Area and pct of forest area experiencing sig. accum. of toxic substances	0	0	•

Criteria & Indicators (con			Data status	
Criterion	Indicators	Coverage		Frequency
6 Maintenance and	29 Value and volume of wood products (including value added)			
enhancement of long- term multiple socio-	30 Value and quantity of non-wood forest products			
economic benefits to	31 Supply and consumption of wood/wood products (including per capita)			
meet the needs of	32 Value of wood and nonwood forest products as percent of GDP			
societies	33 Value of wood and nonwood forest products as percent of GDP			
	34 Supply and consumption/use of non-wood products			
	35 Area and percent forest land managed for recreation (rel to total)	0		
	36 Number & type of recreation facilities (rel. to forest Area & population)	0	•	0
	37 Number of recreation visitor days (rel. to forest Area & population)	<u> </u>		<u> </u>
	38 Value of investment in forest growth, health, mgmt., recreation, etc.	0		0
	39 Expenditures on research and education	<u> </u>		<u> </u>
	40 Extension and use of new and improved technology			
	41 Rates of return on investment	0		
	42 Area and percent forest managed to protect cultural etc needs			
	43 Non-consumptive forest use values.			
	44 Direct and indirect employment in forest sector (rel. to total)	<u> </u>		
	45 Average wage rates and injury rates in forest sector			
	46 Viability and adaptability to change of forest-dependent communities			
	47 Area and percent of forest land used for subsistence purposes			
7 Legal, institutional,	48 Clarifies property rights			
and economic framework for forest	49 Provides for periodic forest-related planning, assessment, and policy review	0	•	•
conservation and sustainable	50 Provides opps for public participation in public policy and decision making	0	•	•
management.	51 Encourages best practice codes for forest management	0	•	•
	52 Provides for the mgmt.t of forests to conserve special environmental values	0	•	•
	53 Provide for public involvement activities and public education, etc	0		•
5 5 5 5 6 6 6 6 6	54 Undertake and implement periodic forest-related planning, assessment, etc	0	•	•
	55 Develop and maintain human resource skills across relevant disciplines	0	•	•
	56 Develop and maintain efficient physical infrastructure to facilitate the supply of forest products and services	0	•	•
	57 Enforce laws, regulations and guidelines		•	•
	58 Investment and taxation policies and a regulatory environment which recognizes the long-term nature of investments	0	•	•
	59 Non-discriminatory trade policies for forest products			
	60 Availability and extent of up-to-date data, statistics, and other information	0	•	•
	61 Scope, frequency, and statistical reliability of forest inventories, etc	0		•
	62 Compatibility with other countries in meas., monitoring and reporting	0		
	63 Development of scientific understanding of forest ecosystems			
	64 Development of methodologies to measure and integrate environmental and social costs and benefits into markets and public policies	0	•	•
	65 New technologies and the capacity to assess socioeconomic consequences	0	•	•
	66 Enhancement of ability to predict impacts of human intervention on forests	0	•	•
	67 Ability to predict impacts on forests of possible climate change			

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Indicator and Title: Indicator 1– Extent of area by forest type relative to total forest area

Indicator 2– Extent of area by forest type and by age class or successional stage

Indicator Lead: W. Brad Smith, USDA Forest Service

Data Coverage: Nationwide

Data Frequency: Annual since 1999, historically every 7-10 years by State since 1930

Data Currency: 2002

Data Source: USDA Forest Service, Research and Development, Forest Inventory and Analysis

(FIA) program. FIA is mandated under the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Research Act of 1978 (PL 95-307, as amended), which replaced the McSweeney/McNary Act of 1928, directing the Secretary of Agriculture to collect, analyze, and periodically report information about renewable resources of the

Nation's forest, range, and related lands.

Forest types are defined by the Society of American Foresters (Eyre 1980) as associations or groups of tree species that are commonly found in forested

communities ranging from single species to complex mixtures.

Data Reliability: FIA field surveys are designed to provide reliable forest area data at +/- 3

percent per million acres of forest area and +/-5 percent per billion cubic feet of volume. Historic estimates prior to FIA field inventories have been developed from FIA trend data on forests and U.S. Bureau of the Census data on forest

land cleared for farming since 1850.

References:

Bailey, R. G. 1995. Description of the ecoregions of the United States. Misc. Pub. No. 1391. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest

Service. 108 p. + map.

Eyre, F.H., ed. 1980. Forest cover types of the United States and Canada.

Bethesda, MD: Society of American Foresters. 148 p. + map.

Smith, W.B.; Miles, P.L., Vissage, J.S.; Sheffield, R.M. 2003. FIA statistics, 2002 RPA online data, references, and a map of U.S. forest distributions are available at

http://fia.fs.fed.us [see RPA section]

Smith, W.B.; Vissage, J.S.; Darr, D.R.; Sheffield, R.M. 2001. Forest Statistics of the United States, 1997. Gen. Tech. Rep. NC-219. St. Paul, MN: U.S. Department of

Agriculture, Forest Service. 191 p.

Indicator and Title: Indicator 3– Extent of area by forest type in protected area categories

as defined by IUCN or other classification system

Indicator Lead: W. Brad Smith, USDA Forest Service

Data Coverage: Nationwide

Data Frequency: Annual since 1999, historically every 7-10 years since 1930.

Data Currency: 2002

Data Source: USDA Forest Service, Research and Development, Forest Inventory and Analysis

(FIA) program. FIA is mandated under the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Research Act of 1978 (PL 95-307, as amended), which replaced the McSweeney/McNary Act of 1928, directing the Secretary of Agriculture to collect, analyze, and periodically report information about renewable resources of the

Nation's forest, range, and related lands.

Forest types are defined by the Society of American Foresters (Eyre, 1980) as associations or groups of tree species that are commonly found in forested communities ranging from single species to complex mixtures.

Protected areas data derived from Conservation Biology Institute database merged with FIA spatial cover type data. IUCN is the World Conservation Monitoring Union founded in 1948 with a mission to influence, encourage and assist societies throughout the world to conserve the integrity and diversity of nature and to ensure that any use of natural resources is equitable and ecologically sustainable. The IUCN protected area classification system has 6 broad categories: 1) strict nature reserve/wilderness, 2) national park, 3) natural monument, 4) habitat/species management area, 5) protected landscape/seascape, and 6) managed resource protection area. More information may be found at http://www.iucn.org

Data Reliability:

References:

FIA field surveys are designed to provide reliable forest area data at +/- 3 percent per million acres of forest area.

Eyre, F.H., ed. 1980. Forest cover types of the United States and Canada. Bethesda, MD: Society of American Foresters. 148 p. + map.

IUCN, World Conservation Union. 1994. 1993 United Nations List of National Parks and Protected Areas. Prepared by WCMC and CNPPA. IUCN, Gland, Switzerland and Cambridge, UK. xlvi + 315 pp.

Protected Areas Data Base, Conservation Biology Institute, Corvallis, OR. (www.consbio.org/cbi/what/pad.htm) and the Remote Sensing Research Unit, Southern Research Station, Raleigh, NC

Smith, W.B.; Miles, P.L.; Vissage, J.S.; Sheffield, R.M. 2003. FIA statistics, 2002 RPA online data, references, and a map of U.S. forest distributions are available at http://fia.fs.fed.us [see RPA section]

Smith, W.B.; Vissage, J.S.; Darr, D.R.; Sheffield, R.M. 2001. Forest statistics of the United States, 1997. Gen. Tech. Rep. NC-219. St. Paul, MN: U.S. Department of Agriculture; Forest Service. 191 p.

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Indicator and Title: Indicator 4– Extent of areas by forest type in protected areas defined

by age class or successional stage

Indicator Lead: W. Brad Smith, USDA Forest Service

Data Coverage: Only 30 percent of protected areas currently have age class. Currently available data

reported.

Data Frequency: Annually since 1999, historically every 7-10 years by State since 1930.

2002 **Data Currency:**

Data Source: USDA Forest Service, Research and Development, Forest Inventory and Analysis

> (FIA) program. FIA is mandated under the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Research Act of 1978 (PL 95-307, as amended), which replaced the McSweeney/McNary Act of 1928, directing the Secretary of Agriculture to collect, analyze, and periodically report information about renewable resources of the

Nation's forest, range, and related lands.

Forest types are defined by the Society of American Foresters (Eyre, 1980) as associations or groups of tree species that are commonly found in forested

communities ranging from single species to complex mixtures.

Data Reliability: FIA field surveys are designed to provide reliable forest area data at +/- 3

percent per million acres of forest area.

References: Eyre, F.H., ed. 1980. Forest cover types of the United States and Canada.

Bethesda, MD: Society of American Foresters. 148 p. 1 map sheet.

IUCN, World Conservation Union. 1994. 1993 United Nations List of National Parks and Protected Areas. Prepared by WCMC and CNPPA. IUCN, Gland,

Switzerland and Cambridge, UK. xlvi + 315 pp.

Protected Areas Data Base, Conservation Biology Institute, Corvallis, OR. (www.consbio.org/cbi/what/pad.htm) and the Remote Sensing Research Unit,

Southern Research Station, Raleigh, NC

Smith, W.B.; Miles, P.L.; Vissage, J.S.; Sheffield, R.M. 2003. FIA statistics, 2002

RPA online data, references, and a map of U.S. forest distributions are available at

http://fia.fs.fed.us [see RPA section]

Smith, W.B.; Vissage, J.S.; Darr, D.R.; Sheffield, R.M. 2001. Forest statistics of the United States, 1997. Gen. Tech. Rep. NC-219. St. Paul, MN: U.S. Department of

Agriculture, Forest Service. 191 p.

Indicator and Title: Indicator 5– Fragmentation of forest types

Indicator Lead: Kurt Riitters, USDA Forest Service

Data Coverage: All forest land in the conterminous 48 States, plus District of Columbia

Data Frequency: One time

Data Currency: circa 1992

Data Source: The Multi-Resolution Landscape Characteristics (MRLC) project and the National

Land Cover Database (NLCD) project. Both projects are federal interagency consortia that provide a 21-class land cover map (with four general forest types identified) for the conterminous United States at a spatial resolution of 0.09 ha per

pixel.

Data Reliability: The accuracy of the MRLC/NLCD is known for the Eastern United States and

accuracy assessments are underway for the Western United States. In the East, the average accuracy after omission and commission errors for an aggregated

single class of forest is approximately 90 percent per pixel.

References:

Riitters, K.H.; Wickham, J.D.; Coulston, J.W. [In press] A preliminary

assessment of Montreal Process indicators of forest fragmentation for the United

States. Environmental Monitoring and Assessment.

Riitters, K.H.; Wickham, J.D.; O'Niell, R.V.; Jones, K.B.; Smith, E.R.; Coulston, J.W.; Wade, T.G.; Smith; J.H. 2002. Fragmentation of continental

United States forests. Ecosystems 5: 815-822.

Vogelmann J.E.; Sohl, T.; Howard, S.M. 1998. Regional characterization of land cover using multiple sources of data. Photogrammetric Engineering and

Remote Sensing 64: 45-57.

Vogelmann, J.E.; Howard, S.M.; Yang, L.; Larson, C.R., Wylie, B.K.; Van Driel, N. 2001. Completion of the 1990s national land cover data set for the conterminous United States from Landsat Thematic Mapper data and ancillary data sources. Photogrammetric Engineering and Remote Sensing 67: 650-662.

Yang, L; Stehman, S.V.; Smith, J.H.; Wickham, J.D. 2001. Thematic accuracy of MRLC land cover for the eastern United States. Remote Sensing of the

Environment 76: 418-422.

Indicator and Title: Indicator 6 – Number of forest dependent species

Indicator Lead: Curt Flather, USDA Forest Service

Data Coverage: (1) BBS- United States and southern Canada; (2) WWF- North America; (3)

NatureServe – North America

Data Frequency: (1) BBS- annually since 1966; (2) WWF- cross-sectional data [no temporal

component]; (3) NatureServe- cross-sectional data [no temporal component]

Data Currency: (1) BBS- 2000; (2) WWF- 1999; (3) NatureServe- 2002

Data Source: (1) The North American Breeding Bird Survey (BBS) - The survey is operated by the USGS, Biological Resources Division in partnership with the Canadian Wildlife

Service. The BBS is based on a continental network of 4,000 roadside routes (of which about 3,000 are surveyed annually). The sampling unit is a 39.4 kilometer (km) route along a secondary road over which 50 three-minute point counts are conducted at 0.8 km intervals. At each point count stop, all birds seen or heard within 0.4 km of the route are recorded. These data can be used to estimate both species richness and relative abundance. Use of these data in support of Indicator 6

focuses on species richness estimates.

(2) The World Wildlife Fund (WWF) database on species occurrence- this database provides information on the number of species that occur throughout the United States and within physiographic strata. The data were compiled by collecting published and unpublished range and distributional maps for North American species. Presence of a species in the United States or any ecoregional stratification was determined by the intersection of a species' geographic range with the country or ecoregional boundary. The list of species reflects the expected species pool

inhabiting some geographic area of interest.

(3) NatureServe- Explorer Version 1.6- This is a national biodiversity database that was developed and maintained by NatureServe – a nonprofit organization that was created, in partnership with The Nature Conservancy, to develop, manage, and distribute data on the occurrence and conservation status of species across the United States, Canada, and Latin America. Data are used to develop lists of forest-

associated species.

Data Reliability: (1) BBS- Reliability varies by species and the geographic scope of the analysis.

Reliability is affected by the number of routes a bird was detected on (sample size), the number of individuals detected on a route (abundance), and the error in the estimates (precision). The BBS was designed to estimate population trends of individual species, and regional credibility measures have been assigned (see indicator 9). These measures of reliability do not address the use of these data in estimating species richness. New techniques are being developed that permit the estimation of species richness based on capture-recapture theory. Estimation of species richness is preferable to simple counts of species detected as such counts are known to be biased (not all species present are detected). Regional credibility measures have not been assigned to the richness estimates, but

standard errors can be estimated to judge precision.

(2)WWF- Reliability (i.e., the accuracy of the assignment of species to ecoregional strata) is unknown.

(3) NatureServe- Reliability (i.e., the extent to which all species have been accounted for) is unknown.

References:

NatureServe Explorer: an online encyclopedia of life. NatureServe Explorer, Version 1.6, (http://www.natureserve.org/explorer/).

Peterjohn, B.G. 1994. North American Breeding Bird Survey. Birding 26: 386-398.

Ricketts, T. H.; Dinerstein, E.; Olson, D.M.; Loucks, C.J.; Echbaum, W.; DellaSala, D.; Kavanagh, K.; Hedao, P.; Hurley, P.T.; Carney, K.M.; Abell, R.; Walters, S. 1999. Terrestrial ecoregions of North America: a conservation assessment. Washington, DC: Island Press, 485 p.

Robbins, C. S.; Bystrak, D.A.; Geissler P.H. 1986. The Breeding Bird Survey: its first fifteen years, 1965-1979. Resour. Publ. 157. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service.

Sauer, J. R., Hines, J.E.; Fallon, F. 2001. The North American Breeding Bird Survey, Results and Analysis 1966 - 2000. Version 2001.2, Laurel, MD: U.S. Geological Survey, Patuxent Wildlife Research Center, Laurel, MD (http://www.nbs.gov/bbs/bbs.html).

Indicator and Title:

Indicator 7 – The status (threatened, rare, vulnerable, endangered, or extinct) of forest-dependent species at risk of not maintaining viable breeding populations, as determined by legislation or scientific assessment.

Indicator Lead:

Curt Flather, USDA Forest Service

Data Coverage:

(1) RPAte- United States; (2) WWF- North America ;(3) NatureServe- North America

Data Frequency:

(1) RPAte- contains data from July 1976 through December 2001; (2) WWF- cross-sectional data [no temporal component]; (3) NatureServe- cross-sectional data [no temporal component]

Data Currency:

(1) RPAte 2001; (2) WWF 1999; (3) NatureServe 2002

Data Source:

- (1) Threatened and endangered species trend database (RPAte) to support Renewable Resources Planning Act National Assessments- In July 1976, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service initiated publication of technical bulletins that chronicle the changes in the number of species listed as threatened or endangered under the Endangered Species Act of 1973. This database represents a compilation of those published estimates of species formally listed as threatened or endangered by taxonomic category.
- (2) The World Wildlife Fund (WWF) database on species occurrence- Provides information on the number of species that occur throughout the United States and within physiographic strata. The data were compiled by collecting published and unpublished range and distributional maps for North American species. Presence of a species in the United States or any ecoregional stratification was determined by the intersection of a species' geographic range with the country or ecoregional boundary. The list of species reflects the expected species pool inhabiting some geographic area of interest.
- (3) NatureServe- Explorer Version 1.6 is a national biodiversity database that was developed and maintained by NatureServe a nonprofit organization that was created, in partnership with The Nature Conservancy, to develop, manage, and distribute data on the occurrence and conservation status of species across the United States, Canada, and Latin America. Data are used to develop lists of forest-associated species and to assign species to conservation status categories.

Data Reliability:

(1) RPAte- Database is a compilation of published numbers of species listed as threatened of endangered by taxonomic. The database is as reliable as these published sources. (2)WWF- Reliability (i.e., the accuracy of the assignment of species to ecoregional strata) is unknown. (3) NatureServe- Reliability (i.e., the extent to which all species have been accounted for) is unknown.

References:

Flather, C. H.; Brady, S.J.; Knowles, M.S... 1999. Wildlife resource trends in the United States: a technical document supporting the 2000 USDA Forest Service RPA assessment. Gen. Tech. Rep. RMRS-GTR-33. Fort Collins, CO: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Research Station. 79 p.

NatureServe Explorer: an online encyclopedia of life. NatureServe Explorer, Version 1.6, (http://www.natureserve.org/explorer/).

Ricketts, T. H.; Dinerstein, E.; Olson, D.M.; Loucks, C.J.; Echbaum, W.; DellaSala, D.; Kavanagh, K.; Hedao, P.; Hurley, P.T.; Carney, K.M.; Abell, R.; Walters, S. 1999. Terrestrial ecoregions of North America: a conservation assessment. Washington, DC: Island Press, 485p.

Indicator and Title: Indicator 8 – The number of forest-dependent species that occupy a small

portion of their former range.

Indicator Lead: Curt Flather, USDA Forest Service

Data Coverage: (1) RRD- United States; (2) NatureServe- North America; (3) BBS- United States

and southern Canada

Data Frequency: (1) RRD- Cross-sectional data (no temporal component); (2) NatureServe- Cross-

sectional data (no temporal component); (3) BBS- Annually since 1966

Data Currency: (1) RRD- 2001; (2) NatureServe- 2002; (3) BBS- 2000

Data Source: (1) Range reduction database (RRD) for threatened and endangered species. This

database was compiled to support the 2003 national report on sustainable forests. The database reflects a compilation of information on the historic and current range of a species that was listed as threatened or endangered under the Endangered Species Act of 1973. Estimates of geographic range and habitat were abstracted

from the final listing decisions as published in the Federal Register.

(2) NatureServe- Explorer Version 1.6. This is a national biodiversity database that was developed and maintained by NatureServe – a nonprofit organization that was created, in partnership with The Nature Conservancy, to develop, manage, and

distribute data on the occurrence and conservation status of species across the United

States, Canada, and Latin America.

(3) The North American Breeding Bird Survey (BBS) - The survey is operated by the USGS, Biological Resources Division in partnership with the Canadian Wildlife Service. The BBS is based on a continental network of 4,000 roadside routes (of which about 3,000 are surveyed annually). The sampling unit is a 39.4 kilometer (km) route along a secondary road over which 50 three minute point counts are conducted at 0.8 km intervals. At each point count stop, all birds seen or heard within 0.4 km of the route are recorded. This data can be used to estimate both species richness and relative abundance. Use of this data in support of indicator 8

focuses on estimating a species' geographic range.

Data Reliability: (1) RRD- The reliability of those published range estimates is unknown.

(2) NatureServe- Reliability (i.e., the extent to which all species have been

accounted for) is unknown.

(3) BBS- Reliability varies by species and the geographic scope of the analysis. Reliability is affected by the number of routes a bird was detected on (sample size), the number of individuals detected on a route (abundance), and the error in the estimates (precision). The BBS was designed to estimate population trends of individual species and regional credibility measures of population trends have been assigned (see indicator 9). These measures of reliability do not address the

use of these data in the estimation of a species' geographic range.

References:

Flather, C. H.; Sieg, C.H.; Knowles, M.S.; McNees, J. [In prep.] Criterion 1: Conservation of biological diversity. Indicator 8: The number of forest dependent species that occupy a small portion of their former range.

NatureServe Explorer: an online encyclopedia of life. NatureServe Explorer, Version 1.6, (http://www.natureserve.org/explorer/).

Peterjohn, B.G. 1994. North American Breeding Bird Survey. Birding 26: 386-398.

Robbins, C. S.; Bystrak, D.A.; Geissler P.H. 1986. The Breeding Bird Survey: its first fifteen years, 1965-1979. Resour. Publ. 157. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service.

Sauer, J. R., Hines, J.E.; Fallon, F. 2001. The North American Breeding Bird Survey, Results and Analysis 1966 - 2000. Version 2001.2, Laurel, MD: U.S. Geological Survey, Patuxent Wildlife Research Center, Laurel, MD (http://www.nbs.gov/bbs/bbs.html).

Indicator and Title: Indicator 9 – Population levels of representative species from diverse habitats

monitored across their range

Indicator Lead: Carolyn Hull Sieg, USDA Forest Service

Data Coverage: (1) BBS- United States and southern Canada; (2) FIA- United States; (3) RPAwp-

United States

Data Frequency: (1) BBS- Annually since 1966; (2) FIA- 2002; (3) RPAwp- 5-year intervals from the

mid-1970s

Data Currency: (1) BBS- 2000; (2) FIA- 2002; (3) RPAwp- mid-1990s

Data Source: (1) The North American Breeding Bird Survey (BBS) - The survey is operated by

the USGS, Biological Resources Division in partnership with the Canadian Wildlife Service. The BBS is based on a continental network of 4,000 roadside routes (of which about 3,000 are surveyed annually). The sampling unit is a 39.4 kilometer (km) route along a secondary road over which 50 three-minute point counts are conducted at 0.8 km intervals. At each point count stop, all birds seen or heard within 0.4 km of the route are recorded. These data can be used to estimate both species richness and relative abundance. Use of these data in support of indicator 9

focuses on estimating temporal trends in the abundance of species.

(2) USDA Forest Service, Research and Development, Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA) program- FIA is mandated under the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Research Act of 1978 (PL 95-307, as amended), which replaced the McSweeney/McNary Act of 1928, directing the Secretary of Agriculture to collect, analyze, and periodically report information about renewable resources of the Nation's forest, range, and related lands. Forest types are defined by the Society of American Foresters (Eyre 1980) as associations or groups of tree species that are commonly found in forested communities ranging from single species to complex mixtures

(3) Wildlife population trend database (RPAwp) to support the Renewable Resources Planning Act National Assessment. State wildlife agencies were contacted to provide population estimates of commonly harvested wildlife species. The data represent a state-by-state compilation of population estimates from the mid-1970s through the mid-1990s.

Data Reliability:

- (1) BBS- Reliability varies by species and the geographic scope of the analysis. Reliability is affected by the number of routes a bird was detected on (sample size), the number of individuals detected on a route (abundance), and the error in the estimates (precision). Regional credibility measures (low, moderate, and high) have been assigned to population trend estimates to aid in their interpretation. The criteria used to assign a particular trend estimate to a credibility class are as follows:
- Low credibility: (1) the regional abundance is < 0.1 birds per route (very low abundance; (2) the sample is based on < 5 routes (very small sample size); (3) a 5 percent per year change would not be detected over the long-term (very imprecise).
- Moderate credibility: (1) the regional abundance is < 1.0 birds per route (low abundance); (2) the sample is based on < 14 routes (small sample size); (3) a 3 percent per year change would not be detected (imprecise).
- High credibility: (1) the regional abundance > 1.0 birds per route (at least moderate abundance); (2) the sample is based on > 14 routes (at lease moderate sample size); (3) a 3 percent per year change would be detected (at least moderately precise).
- (2) FIA- Field surveys are designed to provide reliable forest area data at +/- 3 percent per million acres of forest area and +/-5 percent per billion cubic feet of volume. Historic estimates prior to FIA field inventories have been developed

from FIA trend data on forests and U.S. Bureau of the Census data on forest land cleared for farming since 1850.

(3) RPAwp- because population estimates of commonly harvested wildlife species were derived from different methods, the overall reliability of trend data is unknown. Individual state agencies would have to be contacted to obtain estimates of uncertainty.

References:

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Smith, W. B., J. S. Vissage, D. R. Darr, Sheffield, R.M. 2001. Forest statistics of the United States, 1997. Gen. Tech. Rep. NC-219. U.S. Department of Agriculture, St. Paul, MN. 191 p.

Smith, W.B.; Miles, P.L.; Vissage, J.S.; Sheffield, R.M. 2003. FIA statistics, 2002 RPA online data, references, and a map of U.S. forest distributions are available at http://fia.fs.fed.us [see RPA section]

Indicator and Title: Indicator 10 – Area of forest land and net area of forest land available for

timber production

Indicator 11- Total growing stock of both merchantable and non-merchantable

tree species on forest land available for timber production

Indicator Lead: W. Brad Smith, USDA Forest Service

Data Coverage: Nationwide

Data Frequency: Annually since 1999, historically every 7-10 years by State since 1930

Data Currency: 2002

Data Source: USDA Forest Service, Research and Development, Forest Inventory and Analysis

(FIA) program. FIA is mandated under the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Research Act of 1978 (PL 95-307, as amended), which replaced the McSweeney/McNary Act of 1928, directing the Secretary of Agriculture to collect, analyze, and periodically report information about renewable resources of the

Nation's forest, range, and related lands.

Data Reliability: FIA field surveys are designed to provide reliable forest area data at +/- 3

percent per million acres of forest area and +/-5 percent per billion cubic feet of

volume.

References:

Smith, W.B.; Miles, P.L.; Vissage, J.S.; Sheffield, R.M. 2003. FIA statistics, 2002

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RPA online data, references, and a map of U.S. forest distributions are available at

http://fia.fs.fed.us [see RPA section]

Smith, W.B.; Vissage, J.S.; Darr, D.R.; Sheffield, R.M. 2001. Forest statistics of the

United States, 1997. Gen. Tech. Rep. NC-219. St. Paul, MN: U.S. Department of

Agriculture; Forest Service. 191 p.

Indicator and Title: Indicator 12 – The area and growing stock of plantations of native and exotic

species

Indicator Lead: W. Brad Smith, USDA Forest Service

Data Coverage: Nationwide

Data Frequency: Tree planting statistics annually since 1928. Annually since 1999, historically every

7-10 years by State since 1930.

Data Currency: 2002

Data Source: USDA Forest Service, Research and Development, Forest Inventory and Analysis

(FIA) program. FIA is mandated under the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Research Act of 1978 (PL 95-307, as amended), which replaced the McSweeney/McNary Act of 1928, directing the Secretary of Agriculture to collect, analyze, and periodically report information about renewable resources of the

Nation's forest, range, and related lands.

Tree planting data have been collected by USDA Forest Service State and Private Cooperative Forestry branch since 1928. These data are based on surveys of major

nurseries and tree planting data from state and federal agencies.

Data Reliability: FIA field surveys are designed to provide reliable forest area data at +/- 3

percent per million acres of forest area and +/-5 percent per billion cubic feet of

volume.

References:
Smith, W.B.; Miles, P.L.; Vissage, J.S.; Sheffield, R.M. 2003. FIA statistics, 2002

RPA online data, references, and a map of U.S. forest distributions are available at

http://fia.fs.fed.us [see RPA section]

Smith, W.B.; Vissage, J.S.; Darr, D.R.; Sheffield, R.M. 2001. Forest statistics of the United States, 1997. Gen. Tech. Rep. NC-219. St. Paul, MN: U.S. Department of

Agriculture; Forest Service. 191 p.

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service. Annual. Tree planting in the United

States. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, State and

Private Cooperative Forestry.

Indicator and Title: Indicator 13 – Annual removal of wood products compared to the volume

determined to be sustainable

Indicator Lead: W. Brad Smith, USDA Forest Service

Data Coverage: All U.S. forest land

Data Frequency: Annually since 1999, historically every 7-10 years by State since 1930. Primary

wood using mill data from all pulp mills annually since 1947, sawmills every 3-10

years, veneer mills every 4 years, other mills every 3-10 years.

Data Currency: 2002

Data Source: USDA Forest Service, Research and Development, Forest Inventory and Analysis

(FIA) program. FIA is mandated under the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Research Act of 1978 (PL 95-307, as amended), which replaced the McSweeney/McNary Act of 1928, directing the Secretary of Agriculture to collect, analyze, and periodically report information about renewable resources of the

Nation's forest, range, and related lands.

Data Reliability: FIA field surveys are designed to provide reliable forest area data at +/- 3

percent per million acres of forest area and +/-5 percent per billion cubic feet of

volume.

References:

Smith, W.B.; Miles, P.L.; Vissage, J.S.; Sheffield, R.M. 2003. FIA statistics, 2002 RPA online data, references, and a map of U.S. forest distributions are available at

http://fia.fs.fed.us [see RPA section]

Smith, W.B.; Vissage, J.S.; Darr, D.R.; Sheffield, R.M. 2001. Forest statistics of the United States, 1997. Gen. Tech. Rep. NC-219. St. Paul, MN: U.S. Department of

Agriculture; Forest Service. 191 p.

Smith, W. B. 1991. Assessing removals for North Central forest inventories.

Res. Pap. NC-299. St. Paul, MN: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest

Service, North Central Forest Experiment Station. 48 p.

Indicator and Title: Indicator 14 – Annual removal of non-timber forest products (e.g., fur-bearers,

berries, mushrooms, game) compared to the level determined to be sustainable.

Indicator Lead: Susan Alexander, USDA Forest Service

Data Coverage: All U.S. forest land

Data Frequency: Varies, intermittent to annually

Data Currency: 2002

Data Source: Game animals, fur bearers- State and Federal wildlife agencies. Medicinals, Food

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and forage species, floral and horticultural species, resins and oils, arts and crafts-market reports, USDC Bureau of the Census export data (US Harmonized Tariff Code System), U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service and U.S. Department of Interior, Bureau of Land Management permit data, local and regional surveys. Secondary wood products: USDA Forest Service and USDI Bureau of Land Management permit data, USDC Bureau of Census data, and USDC Bureau of

Economic Analysis data.

Data Reliability: Varies by product category, no standardized system

References:

U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census. 2002. Statistics of U.S.

businesses 1992, 1997, 1998, 1999. Web site: http://www.census.gov/

U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis. 2002. Web site:

http://www.bea.doc.gov/

Indicator and Title: Indicator 15 – Area and percent of forest affected by processes or agents

beyond the range of historic variation, e.g. by insects, disease, competition from exotic species, fire, storm, land clearance, permanent flooding, salinization and

domestic animals.

Indicator Lead: Andy Mason, USDA Forest Service

Data Coverage: Nationwide

Data Frequency: Climate – Largely anecdotal records of climatic events going back to 1200-1300

Fire - Annual from 1960 to present, decadal 1919-60

Insects and Diseases – Annual from 1979 to present for most data.

Anecdotal records in some cases back to the early 1800s. Dendrochronological information for some insects to 1630. Invasive Plants – Anecdotal records going back to the 1800s

Forest Area – RPA data from the 1997 assessment for forest area were

used

Data Currency: 2000

Data Sources

Climate – Climatic data was taken from a variety of sources including the 2001 assessment of Working Group I of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, (IPCC), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and the National Interagency Fire Center (NIFC) in Boise, Idaho. Some instrumental records of temperature and drought dating back to 1861 and 1895, respectively, were included. Information on specific storm events between 1938 and 2000, which caused severe forest damage, was taken from individual reports describing these events.

Fire – Data on changes in historic fire regimes was provided by the Fire Sciences Laboratory, Rocky Mountain Research Station in Missoula, MT. Statistical data on wildfire occurrence ere accessed from a database maintained by NIFC. Annual statistics on the number of fires and area burned are available from 1960 to the present and on a decadal basis from 1919 to the present.

Insects And Diseases – Information on the status of insect and disease outbreaks was taken from early historical reports and annual national conditions reports published by the USDA Forest Service. Formal aerial and ground surveys to map the status of insect damage in U.S. forests began in some regions as early as 1947. Beginning in 1951, the National Office of the Forest Service began to issue annual insect conditions reports. These reports were brief, narrative descriptions of the regional status of certain insect pests and contained relatively little metric information. In 1971, forest disease conditions were added to the report. Beginning in 1977, some maps, graphics, and statistical data appeared in the reports. In 1979, the format was revised significantly and metric data on a statewide basis for a number of key insects and diseases became a regular feature of the report. Reports from 1979 to the present were used to establish a new reference condition for insects and diseases. An aerial survey database, recently developed by USDA Forest Service, Forest Health Technology Enterprise Team (FHTET) and contain data from 1996-2000, also was used.

Invasive Plants – Databases maintained by USDA and selected literature was used to compile information on the status of invasive plants in forest ecosystems. Anecdotal records are included in the introduction of some invasive plants that date back to the early 1800s.

Forest area - Area of forest land, by forest type groups, used in this analysis is based on data from the 2000 Resources Planning Act (RPA) assessment and accompanying FIA data (http://fia.fs.fed.us/ library/final_rpa_tables.pdf). Wherever possible, data were summarized by RPA regions.

Data Reliability:

Recent quantitative data are considered reliable although no statistical errors are estimated owing to the manner in which the data are collected. Anecdotal records, especially those from the 1800s and early 1900s, are of varying reliability.

References:

Dahms, C.W.; Geils, B.W., 1997. An assessment of forest ecosystem health in the Southwest. Gen. Tech. Rep. RM-295. Ft. Collins, CO: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Forest and range Experiment Station, 97 p.

Dolph, R.E. Jr., 1980. Spruce budworm activity in Oregon and Washington, 1947-1979. R-6-FIDM-033-1980. Portland, OR: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Pacific Northwest Region. 54 p.

Mitchell, J.E., 2000. Rangeland Resource trends in the United States- technical document supporting the 2000 USDA Forest Service RPA Assessment. Gen. Tech. Rep. RM-68. Ft. Collins, CO: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Forest and range Experiment Station. 84 p.

NIFC (National Interagency Fire Center) 2000. Fire season 2000 highlights. http://www.nifc.gov/fireinfo/2000/highlights.html.

NOAA. [n.d.] North American drought: A paleo perspective. http://www.ngdc.noaa.gov/paleo/drought/drght history.html

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Price, T.S.; Doggett, C.; Pye, J.M.; Smith, B.; eds. 1997. A history of southern pine beetle outbreaks in the Southeastern United States. Macon, GA: Georgia Forestry Commission.

Starkey, D.A.; Anderson, R.L.; Young, C.H.; Cost, N.D.; Vissage, J.S.; May, D.M., Yockey, E.K., 1997. Monitoring incidence of fusiform rust in the south and change over time. Forest Health Protection. Report R8-PR 30. Atlanta, GA: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Southern Region. 15 p.

Swetman, T.W.; Lynch, A.M., 1993. Multicentury, regional scale patterns of western spruce budworm outbreaks. Ecological Monographs 63(4): 339-424.

Swetman, T.W.; Wickman, B.E.; Paul, H.G.; Baisan, C.H., 1995. Historical patterns of western spruce budworm and Douglas-fir tussock moth outbreaks in the Northern Blue Mountains since A.D. 1700. Research Pap. PNW-484. Portland, OR: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Pacific Northwest Research Station. 27 p.

- Terry, J.R.; Overgaard, N.A; Ciesla, W.M. 1969. Survey of damage to forested lands caused by Hurricane Camille in Mississippi. Report 70-2-18. Pineveille, LA: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Southeastern Area. 4 p.
- U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, 1985a. Insect and disease conditions in the United States 1979-83. Gen. Tech. Rep. WO-46, 94 pp
- U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, 1985-2001. Forest insect and disease conditions in the United States Annual Report. Forest Health Protection.
- U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Fire Science Laboratory, 1999. Current condition classes v1.0. Missoula, MT: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Research Station, Fire Science Laboratory. Unpublished database. On file with: Fire Science Laboratory.
- U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, 2001. U.S. forest facts and historical trends. http://fia.fs.fed.us
- U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service. [n.d.] GM Digest, Northeastern Area. Morgantown, WV.

Indicator and Title:

Indicator Lead:

John Coulston, USDA Forest Service

Data Coverage:

- (1) NADP/NTN: Wet deposition data for coterminous United States used.
- (2) EPA AIRS Database: Ambient O3 data for coterminous United States used. Most data from urban or suburban areas.
- (3) USDA Forest Service Ozone Biomonitoring: Plant injury from O3; monitoring program implemented in 33 states as of 2000.
- (4) U.S. forest types and predicted percent of forest cover from AVHRR data

Data Frequency:

- (1) NADP/NTN: Data available daily 1978-2000 with variable spatial coverage. However, pre-1994 data not directly comparable with post-1994 data.
- (2) EPA AIRS: Data available hourly with variable spatial coverage from 1994 to 2000.
- (3) USDA Forest Service ozone biomonitoring: Data available yearly 1994 to 2000 with variable spatial coverage.
- (4) U.S. forest types and predicted percent forest cover from AVHRR data: One time

Data Currency:

2000: NADP/NTN; EPA AIRS; USDA Forest Service ozone biomonitoring data.

2000: Forest types of the United States

Data Source:

- (1) NADP/NTN: Available online at http://nadp.swsuiuc.edu
- 2) EPA AIRS: Available online at http://www.epa.gov/airs/airs.html
- 3) USDA Forest Service Ozone Biomonitoring: Available online at http://fhmozone.net
- 4) U.S. forest types: Available online at http://nationalatlas.gov

Data Reliability:

- (1) NADP/NTN: For inclusion of data in annual summaries the following criteria must be met:
 - a. There must be valid samples (as defined in Section III.A) for at least 75 percent of the summary period.
 - b. For at least 90 percent of the summary period there must be precipitation amounts (including zero amounts) either from the rain gage or from the sample volume.
 - c. There must be valid samples (as defined in Section III.A) for at least 75 percent of the total precipitation amount reported for the summary period.
 - d. For the entire summary period the total precipitation as measured from the sample volume must be at least 75 percent of the total precipitation measured by the rain gage for all valid samples where both values are available.
- (2) EPA AIRS: The EPA states that they make diligent efforts to ensure the accuracy of these data. However, some data is incomplete. Summaries using the raw hourly data were based on an average capture rate of 95 percent.
- (3) USDA Forest Service Ozone Biomonitoring: At each biomonitoring site, the amount and severity of ozone injury is recorded in 5 classes each. The

- measurement quality objective is 90 percent of observation with one class when compared to quality assurance crew.
- (4) U.S. forest types: Metadata states no test for logical consistency has been preformed on this data set.

References:

EPA AIRS data: http://www.epa.gov/air/data/limits.htm for discussion.

Lynch, J.A.; Bowersox, V.C.; Grimm, J.W. 1996. Trends in precipitation chemistry in the United States, 1983-1994: An analysis of the effects in 1995 of Phase I of the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990, Title IV. U.S. Department of the Interior, Geological Survey Open-File Report 96-0346. 20 p. http://www.water.usgs.gov/pubs/acidrain

NADP/NTN data: http://nadp.sws.uiuc.edu/documentation/completeness.asp for discussion.

U. S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service. 1999. Forest Health Monitoring 1999 Field Methods Guide. USDA Forest Service. Research Triangle Park, NC: National Forest Health Monitoring Program.

Zhu, Z.; Evans, D.L. 1994. U.S. forest types and predicted percent forest cover from AVHRR data. Photogrammetric Engineering and Remote Sensing. 60: p525-531.

Indicator and Title: Indicator 17 – Area and percentage of forest land with diminished biological

components indicative of changes in fundamental ecological processes and/or

ecological continuity.

Indicator Lead: Mark Ambrose, USDA Forest Service

Data Coverage: All U.S. forest land in states in which FHM (FIA, P3) plots has been established (32)

states as of 1999). Permanent fixed-area plots were located approximately 27

kilometers (km) apart on a hexagonal grid (EPA EMAP grid). Each plot represented 158,000 acres. In 2000, the grid was intensified so that each plot represented 94,800

acres.

Data Frequency: Currently one-fifth of the P3 plots are measured every year according to a rotating

> panel design (5-year cycle). Prior to 2000, one-third of the plots were measured every year on a 4-year cycle. Earliest data are from 1990 for the New England

states.

Data through 1999 used for this report; 2000, 2001 data is currently being processed. **Data Currency:**

Data Source: USDA Forest Service, Forest Health Monitoring (FHM) program. FHM collected

forest health plot data from 1990 through 1999.

USDA Forest Service, Research and Development, Forest Inventory and Analysis

(FIA) program. http://fia.fs.fed.us

Fire Science Laboratory. 2001. Current condition classes, 2000. Missoula, MT:

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Research

Station, Fire Science Laboratory.

http://www.fs.fed.us/fire/fuelman/curcond.htm.

Fire Science Laboratory. 2001. Historical natural fire regimes, 2000. Missoula, MT: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Research Station, Fire Science Laboratory. http://www.fs.fed.us/fire/fuelman/firereg.htm.

Data Reliability:

The sampling system was designed to detect large-scale phenomena. Plot intensity allows analysis at the level of approximately 2 million forested acres. This is generally a scale which allows analysis by ecoregion section.

Measurement quality objectives (MQOs) are set for each variable measured. (Ex. Crown dieback ratings should agree with QA crew ratings within 10 percentage points 90% of the time; DBH should agree with QA crew measurements within 5% of true DBH 90 percent of the time.) MQOs for other

variables can be found in the Field Methods Guides cited below.

References:

The best documentation of the elements of the data sets is provided by the FHM and FIA field methods guides. Because some field protocols have evolved over time, it may be useful to consult the editions of the field methods guides specific to the years of data being analyzed. Citations for the guides corresponding to

the most recent data are given below.

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service. November 1999. Course-scale spatial data for wildland fire and fuel management. Ft Collins, CO: Prescribed Fire and Fire Effects Research Work Unit, Rocky Mountain Research Station.

Available: http://www.fs.fed.us/fire/fuelman

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FHM downloadable data, data summaries, documentation, and publications are available at http://www.na.fs.fed.us/spfo/fhm/.

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- Hann, W. J.; Bunnell, D.C. [In press] Fire and land management planning and implementation across multiple scales. Intnl. Journal of Wildland Fire. 27 p.
- Pollard, J.E.; Smith, W.D. 2001. Forest health monitoring 1999 plot component quality assurance report. Research Triangle Park, NC: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Forest Health Monitoring Program.
- Schmidt, K.M.; Menakis, J.P.; Hardy, C.C.; Hann, W.J.; Bunnell, D.L. 2002. Development of coarse-scale spatial data for wildland fire and fuel management. Gen. Tech. Rep. RM-87. Fort Collins, CO: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Research Station, 41 p + CD.
- U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service. 1999. Forest Health Monitoring 1999 Field Methods Guide. Research Triangle Park, NC: USDA Forest Service, National Forest Health Monitoring Program.
- U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service. 2000. Forest inventory and analysis national core field guide, volume 1: field data collection procedures for phase 2 plots, version 1.4. Washington, D.C: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service. Internal report. On file with: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Forest Inventory and Analysis, 201 14th St., Washington, DC, 20250
- U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service. 2000. Forest inventory and analysis national core field guide, volume 2: field data collection procedures for phase 3 plots, version 1.4. Washington, D.C: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service. Internal report. On file with: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Forest Inventory and Analysis, 201 14th St., Washington, DC, 20250.

Indicator and Title: Indicator 18 – Area and percent of forestland with significant soil erosion

Indicator Lead: Kathy O'Neill, USDA Forest Service

Data Coverage: Soils data nationwide. FIA P3 data currently implemented on 70 percent of all U.S.

forest land.

Data Frequency: Varies by state. FIA P3 data collected on 20 percent of all field plots are measured

annually since 1989 (as each State is implemented in annualized FIA inventory).

Data Currency: STATSGO publication date 1994; dates for individual soil surveys vary.

Information available from the NRCS. Soil maps for the State Soil Geographic (STATSGO) database were made by generalizing the detailed soil survey data. The mapping scale for STATSGO map is 1:250,000 (with the exception of Alaska, which is 1:1,000,000). The level of mapping is designed to be used for broad planning and

management uses covering state, regional, and multi-state areas.

FIA Phase 3 data were collected from 1998 to 2000.

Data Source: USDA Natural Resource Conservations Service (NRCS, formerly Soil Conservation

Service), National Cooperative Soil Survey, State Soil Geographic Database (STATSGO). The NRCS is responsible for collecting, storing, maintaining, and distributing soil survey information for privately owned lands in the United States. USDA Forest Service Forest Health Monitoring (FHM) Program. FHM is a national program designed to determine the status, changes, and trends in indicators of forest condition on an annual basis. The program is coordinated by

the USDA Forest Service Research and State and Private Forestry (S&PF).

Data Reliability: Adherence to National Cooperative Soil Survey standards and procedures is

based on peer review, quality control, and quality assurance. Quality control is outlined in documents that reside with the Natural Resources Conservation

Service state soil scientist.

References:

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service. 1975. Soil

Taxonomy: a basic system of soil classification for making and interpreting soil

surveys. Agric. Handb. 436. Washington, DC.

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service. 1992. Keys to Soil

Taxonomy. SMSS Technical Monograph No. 19. Soil Survey Staff,

Washington, DC.

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service. 1993. National Soil

Survey Handbook, title 430-VI. Soil Survey Staff, Washington, DC.

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service. 1993. Soil Survey

Manual. Agric. Handbook 18. Soil Survey Staff, Washington, DC.

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Geographic (STATSGO) Data Base: Data use information. Soil Survey Staff,

Washington, DC

U.S. Department of Agriculture. State Soil Survey Database Data Dictionary.

Soil Conserv. Serv.

STATSGO statistics, online databases, metadata, and references are available at

http://www.ftw.nrcs.usda.gov/stat data.html.

FIA statistics, online databases, references, and a map of U.S. forest distributions are available at http://fia.fs.fed.us

Forest Health Monitoring Indicator data available at http://www.na.fs.fed.us/spfo/fhm/

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Indicator and Title: Indicator 20 – Percent of stream kilometers in forested catchments in which

stream flow and timing have deviated significantly from the historic range of

variability

Indicator Lead: David C. Chojnacky, USDA Forest Service

Data Coverage: Nationwide

Data Frequency: Daily, but numbers of gauging stations vary over time; some data since 1870

Data Currency: 1999

Data Source: U.S. Geological Society's NWISWeb database (http://waterdata.usgs.gov/nwis).

Although nationwide data were obtained through a private company

(http://www.hydrosphere.com) for the lowest reach or most downstream gauging station for 1,960 HUC-8 watersheds. Data included 20,243,678 daily maximum

water flow measurements.

Data Reliability: Recent data are collected electronically and periodically reviewed to ensure

accuracy. I found few obvious problems. I was initially alarmed by "negative" water flows but found that these are valid measurement for some canals that can flow both ways. Wintertime "zero flow rates" for frozen streams can be tricky to use but these were valid measurements. A few observations included misplaced bracket symbols, which corrupted these measurements. Otherwise,

the 20+ million measurements processed flawlessly. (http://wa.water.usgs.gov/realtime/data.disclaimer.html).

References:

(http://waterdata.usgs.gov/nwis) (http://www.hydrosphere.com)

(http://wa.water.usgs.gov/realtime/data.disclaimer.html)

Indicator and Title: Indicator 21 – Area and percent of forestland with significantly diminished soil

organic matter and/or changes in other soil chemical properties

Indicator 22 – Area and percent of forest land with significant compaction or

change in soil physical properties resulting from human activities

Indicator Lead: Kathy O'Neill, USDA Forest Service

Data Coverage: Soils data nationwide. FIA P3 data currently implemented on 70 percent of all U.S.

forest land.

Data Frequency: Varies by state. FIA P3 data collected on 20 percent of all field plots are measured

annually since 1989 (as each State is implemented in annualized FIA inventory).

Data Currency: STATSGO publication date 1994; dates for individual soil surveys vary.

Information available from the NRCS. Soil maps for the State Soil Geographic (STATSGO) database were made by generalizing the detailed soil survey data. The mapping scale for STATSGO map is 1:250,000 (with the exception of Alaska, which is 1:1,000,000). The level of mapping is designed to be used for broad planning and

management uses covering state, regional, and multi-state areas.

FIA Phase 3 data were collected from 1998 to 2000.

Data Source: USDA Natural Resource Conservations Service (NRCS, formerly Soil Conservation

Service), National Cooperative Soil Survey, State Soil Geographic Database (STATSGO). The NRCS is responsible for collecting, storing, maintaining, and distributing soil survey information for privately owned lands in the United States. USDA Forest Service Forest Health Monitoring (FHM) Program. FHM is a national program designed to determine the status, changes, and trends in indicators of forest condition on an annual basis. The program is coordinated by

the USDA Forest Service Research and State and Private Forestry (S&PF).

Data Reliability: Adherence to National Cooperative Soil Survey standards and procedures is

based on peer review, quality control, and quality assurance. Quality control is outlined in documents that reside with the Natural Resources Conservation

Service state soil scientist.

References:

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service. 1975. Soil Taxonomy: a basic system of soil classification for making and interpreting soil

surveys. Agric. Handb. 436. Washington, DC.

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service. 1992. Keys to Soil

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Washington, DC.

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service. 1993. National Soil

Survey Handbook, title 430-VI. Soil Survey Staff, Washington, DC.

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service. 1993. Soil Survey

Manual. Agric. Handbook 18. Soil Survey Staff, Washington, DC.

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service. 1993. National Soil

Survey Handbook, title 430-VI. Soil Survey Staff, Washington, DC.

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service. 1994. State Soil

Geographic (STATSGO) Data Base: Data use information. Soil Survey Staff,

Washington, DC

U.S. Department of Agriculture. State Soil Survey Database Data Dictionary. Soil Conserv. Serv.

STATSGO statistics, online databases, metadata, and references are available at http://www.ftw.nrcs.usda.gov/stat data.html.

FIA statistics, online databases, references, and a map of U.S. forest distributions are available at http://fia.fs.fed.us

Forest Health Monitoring Indicator data available at http://www.na.fs.fed.us/spfo/fhm/

Indicator and Title: Indicator 24 – Percent of surface water in forest areas with significant variation

from historic range for dissolved oxygen, temperature, electrical conductivity,

acidity (pH), and sedimentation.

Indicator Lead: David C. Chojnacky, USDA Forest Service

Data Coverage: Over 50 select watershed nationwide

Data Frequency: Monthly from 1991 to 2000

Data Currency: 2000

Data Source: U.S. Geological Society's National Water-Quality Assessment (NAWQA) data

warehouse.

Data Reliability: As a general about 10 percent of total budget is spent on quality

assurance/control replicate samples and for checking missing data and spikes. I found no obvious problems once data were properly downloaded. Breaking

downloading into several files corrected the format error problems.

References:

http://water.usgs.gov/nawqa/nawqa_home.html http://water.usgs.gov/nawqa/protocols/doc_list.html

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Indicator and Title: Indicator 25 – Area and percent of forestland experiencing an accumulation of

persistent toxic substances

Indicator Lead: Kathy O'Neill, USDA Forest Service

Data Source: USDA Natural Resource Conservations Service (formerly Soil Conservation

Service), National Cooperative Soil Survey, State Soil Geographic Database (STATSGO). The NRCS is responsible for collecting, storing, maintaining, and distributing soil survey information for privately owned lands in the United States. USDA Forest Service Forest Health Monitoring (FHM) Program. FHM is a national program designed to determine the status, changes, and trends in indicators of forest condition on an annual basis. The program is coordinated by the USDA

Forest Service Research and State and Private Forestry (S&PF).

Data Coverage: Soils data nationwide. FIA Phase 3 data currently implemented on 70% of all U.S.

forest land.

Data Frequency: Varies by state. FIA Phase 3 data collected on 20% of all field plots annual since

1989 as system implemented.

Data Currency: STATSGO publication date 1994; dates for individual soil surveys vary.

Information available from the NRCS. Soil maps for the State Soil Geographic (STATSGO) database were made by generalizing the detailed soil survey data. The mapping scale for STATSGO map is 1:250,000 (with the exception of Alaska, which is 1:1,000,000). The level of mapping is designed to be used for broad planning and

management uses covering state, regional, and multi-state areas.

FIA Phase 3 data were collected from 1998-2000.

Data Reliability: Indicator 25- TRI data reflect releases and other waste management of

chemicals, and not exposures of the public to those chemicals. TRI data alone are not sufficient to determine exposure or to calculate potential adverse effects on the environment. TRI data, in conjunction with other information, can be used as a starting point in evaluating exposures that may result from release and

other waste management activities, which involve toxic chemicals.

References:

FIA statistics, online databases, references, and a map of U.S. forest distributions are available at http://fia.fs.fed.us

Forest Health Monitoring Indicator data available at http://www.na.fs.fed.us/spfo/fhm/

TRI statistics, online databases, references, and metadata are available at http://www.epa.gov/triexplorer/.

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service. 1975. Soil Taxonomy: a basic system of soil classification for making and interpreting soil surveys. Agric. Handb. 436. Washington, DC.

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service. 1992. Keys to Soil Taxonomy. SMSS Technical Monograph No. 19. Soil Survey Staff, Washington, DC.

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service. 1993. National Soil Survey Handbook, title 430-VI. Soil Survey Staff, Washington, DC.

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service. 1993. Soil Survey Manual. Agric. Handbook 18. Soil Survey Staff, Washington, DC.

- U.S. Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service. 1993. National Soil Survey Handbook, title 430-VI. Soil Survey Staff, Washington, DC.
- U.S. Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service. 1994. State Soil Geographic (STATSGO) Data Base: Data use information. Soil Survey Staff, Washington, DC
- U.S. Department of Agriculture. State Soil Survey Database Data Dictionary. Soil Conserv. Serv. STATSGO statistics, online databases, metadata, and references are available at http://www.ftw.nrcs.usda.gov/stat_data.html.

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Indicator and Title: Indicator 26 – Total forest ecosystem biomass and carbon pool

Indicator 27 – Contribution of forest ecosystems to the total global carbon

budget, including absorption and release of carbon

Indicator Lead: Linda Heath, USDA Forest Service

Data Source: Main source of data is forest inventory data collected by USDA Forest Service,

Research and Development, Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA) program. See indicator 1. Information about data used for mineral soil carbon given below.

Data Coverage: All U.S. land

Data Frequency: Database compiled in early 1990s. Soil samples collected annually for various

projects and entered into database. This is not a statistically designed survey; rather it is an ongoing inventory to characterize soils that are thought to be relatively

unchanging.

Data Currency: 1990s

References:

Data Source: Mineral soil carbon: Base data are taken from The State Soil Geographic Data Base

(STATSGO). STATSGO data are compiled in 1:250,000 quadrangle units, with mapping units corresponding to soil associations. The number of soil polygons per quadrangle map is between 100 and 400. The minimum area mapped is about 1,544 acres. Each soil association is linked to USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service' Soils Interpretations Record attribute database. The database contains soil survey data including soil properties such as percentage of soil carbon, bulk density, and percentage of rock fragments. Where detailed data were not available, soils of

like areas were studied and probably classification and extent of soils were

determined.

Data Reliability: These data are useful for understanding the soils resources and for planning at a

state or regional or national level. Statistics must be interpreted cautiously when

other data such as land use data are overlaid on STATSGO data.

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service. 1991. State Soil

Geographic Data Base (STATSGO): Data users guide. Misc. Pub. Number 1492. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service. U.S.

Government Printing Office.

Information concerning access to the soils database is available at

 $http://www.ftw.nrcs.usda.gov/stat_data.html.$

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Indicator and Title: Indicator 28 – Contribution of forest products to the global carbon budget

Indicator Lead: Linda Heath, USDA Forest Service

Data Coverage: All timber arriving at U.S. mills, and wood and wood products imported to and

exported from the United States.

Data Frequency: Annually since 1900

Data Currency: 1999

Data Source: USDA Forest Service, Research and Development, Forest Products Laboratory

researchers. The data were compiled from forest industry trade associations and government agencies, in particular U.S. Department of Agriculture and the U.S. Department of Commerce. Base data are collected through annual surveys of

manufacturers.

Data Reliability: Data are collected through surveys of manufacturers and are thought to provide

reliable roundwood production and consumption, and product data at +/- 5

percent of total.

References:

Howard, J.L. 2001. U.S. timber production, trade, consumption, and price statistics

1965-1999. Res. Pap. RP-595. Madison, WI: U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest

Service, Forest Products Laboratory. 90 p.

Indicator and Title: Indicator 30 – Value and quantities of production of non-wood forest products.

Indicator Lead: Susan Alexander, USDA Forest Service

Data Coverage: All U.S. forest land

Data Frequency: Varies, intermittent to annually

Data Currency: 2002

Data Source: Game animals, fur bearers- State and Federal wildlife agencies.

Medicinals, Food and forage species, floral and horticultural species, resins and oils, arts and crafts- market reports, USDC Bureau of the Census export data (US Harmonized Tariff Code System), U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service and U.S. Department of Interior, Bureau of Land Management permit data, local and

regional surveys.

Secondary wood products: USDA Forest Service and USDI Bureau of Land Management permit data, USDC Bureau of Census data, and USDC Bureau of

Economic Analysis data.

Data Reliability: Varies by product category, no standardized system

References:

Alexander, S. J.; Weigand, J.F.; Blatner, K.A... 2002. U.S. commerce in nontimber forest products. In: Jones, E.T.; McLain, R.J.; Weigand, J.F., Eds. Nontimber forest products in the United States. Lawrence, KS: University Press of Kansas. 424 p.

U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census. 2002. Statistics of U.S. businesses 1992, 1997, 1998, 1999. Web site: http://www.census.gov/

U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis. 2002. Web site: http://www.bea.doc.gov/

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Indicator and Title: Indicator 31 – Supply and consumption of wood and wood products, including

consumption per capita

Indicator Lead: Ken Skog, USDA Forest Service

Data Coverage: Nationwide

Data Frequency: Annual wood consumption and trade data

Data Currency: 1999, 2000

Data Source: Data for this indicator are from the U.S. Forest Service, Forest Products Laboratory

reports on U.S. timber production, trade, consumption, and price statistics; U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census reports on historical statistics of the United States; and U.S. Department of Energy, Energy Information Administration

annual energy review reports.

Data Reliability: The data on roundwood equivalent of consumption use estimates of the

roundwood equivalent of imports and exports assuming the products are made of roundwood in the United States. The estimate of roundwood use may be high to the extent that recovered paper is used for paper production rather than roundwood. Consumption data are generally not available by region and are based on levels of end use in each region – construction, manufacturing, education, and a wide range of general business activities – advertising, packaging, and communications. To provide consumption levels by region

would require additional research not currently conducted.

References:

Howard, J.L. 2001. U.S. Timber production, trade, consumption, and price statistics, 1965-1999. FPL-RP-595. Madison, WI: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Forest Products Laboratory. 90p.

(http://www.fpl.fs.fed.us/documnts/FPLrp/fplrp595/fplrp595.htm)

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service. 1988. U.S. Timber production, trade, consumption, and price statistics, 1950-1987. Misc. Pub. 1471.

Washington, DC.

U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Census. 1975. Historical statistics of the United States: colonial times to 1970; part 1. Washington, DC: U.S.

Department of Commerce, 609 p.

(http://www.census.gov/mp/www/pub/gen/msgen11b.html)

U.S. Department of Energy, Energy Information Administration. 2001. Annual

energy review 2000. DOE/EIA-0384(2000). Washington, DC 379 p.

(http://www.eia.doe.gov/emeu/aer/pdf/038400.pdf)

U.S. Department of Energy, Energy Information Administration, 2002. Monthly

energy review, January 2002. DOE/EIA-0035(2002/01). 193 p.

(http://www.eia.doe.gov/emeu/mer/)

Indicator and Title: Indicator 32 – Value of wood and non-wood products production as a

percentage of GDP

Indicator Lead: Ken Skog, USDA Forest Service, wood products

Susan J. Alexander, USDA Forest Service, nonwood products

Data Coverage: Wood products- Nationwide

Nonwood products- Nationwide for medicinals, regional for food and forage species, for floral and horticultural species, and for hunting and trapping

Data Frequency: Annual wood consumption and trade data for wood products. Annual to

periodic reporting for non-wood products depending on product and reporting

capability.

Data Currency: Wood products- 1999

Nonwood products- 1992-1998

Data Source: Wood products- U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census reports

on wood manufacturing;

Nonwood products- Industry trade reports, newsletters, and journal articles. (see

references).

Data Reliability: Data presented on value and value added for products are for industry sectors in

total and not just for wood and paper products. Data on value added by forest products industries includes value added in making some nonwood fiber products. Data on value added includes some, but not all, of the value added by forest management activities. Data on value of nonwood forest products are limited to a portion of the product categories, and the portion that is value added is not available. Reporting of employment data and regional contributions for

nonwood products is inconsistent

References:

Wood products

U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census. 1995a. 1992 Census of manufacturers, industry series: household furniture, industries 2511, 2512, 2524, 2515, 2517, and 2519. MC92-I-25A. Washington, DC. 26 p. + app. (http://www.census.gov/prod/1/manmin/92mmi/mci25af.pdf)

U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census. 1995b. 1992 Census of manufacturers, industry series: office, public building, and miscellaneous furniture; office and store fixtures, Industries 2521, 2522, 2531, 2541, 2542, 2591, and 2599. MC92-I-25B. Washington, DC. 31 p. + app. (http://www.census.gov/prod/1/manmin/92mmi/mci25bf.pdf)

U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census. 1998. 1996 Annual survey of manufacturers - statistics for industry groups and industries. M96 (AS)–1. Washington, DC. 64p. + app.

(http://www.census.gov/prod/3/98pubs/m96-as1.pdf)

U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census. 2002. Statistics of U.S. Businesses 1992, 1997, 1998, 1999.

Web site: http://www.census.gov/csd/susb/susb2.htm#go92 data files: http://www.census.gov/csd/susb/usalli92.xls

http://www.census.gov/csd/susb/usalli97.xls http://www.census.gov/csd/susb/usalli98.xls

http://www.census.gov/csd/susb/usalli99.xls

U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis. 2002a. Shipments of Manufacturing Industries by four-digit SIC industry, three-digit

SIC industry group, and two-digit SIC major group. Web site (http://www.bea.doc.gov/bea/dn2/gpo.htm)

U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis. 2002b. Gross Domestic Product by Industry and the Components of Gross Domestic Income. Current dollar estimates for 1947-2000. Web site (http://www.bea.doc.gov/bea/dn2/gpo.htm)

Non-wood products

Blatner, K.A.; Schlosser, W.E... 1997. The floral and Christmas greens industry of the Pacific Northwest. Project report to the USDA Forest Service PNW Research Station.

Blumenthal, M. 1999. Market report: herb market levels after five years of boom. HerbalGram 47: 64-65.

Brevoort, P. 1998. The booming U.S. botanical market: a new overview. HerbalGram 44: 33-44.

Mater, C. 1997. Consumer trends, market opportunities, and new approaches to sustainable development of special forest products. Special forest products: biodiversity meets the marketplace. In: Vance, N.; Thomas, J., eds. Gen Tech. Rep. GTR-WO-63. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service: 8-25. (http://www.fs.fed.us/pnw/pubs/gtr63/gtrwo63a.pdf)

Schlosser, W.; Blatner, K.; Chapman, R. 1991. Economic and marketing implications of special forest products harvest in the coastal Pacific Northwest. Western Journal of Applied Forestry. 6(3): 67-72.

Schlosser, W.; Blatner, K. 1995. The wild edible mushroom industry of Washington, Oregon and Idaho: a 1992 survey of processors. Journal of Forestry. 93(3): 31-36

Indicator and Title: Indicator 33 – Degree of recycling of forest products

Indicator Lead: Ken Skog, USDA Forest Service

Data Coverage: Nationwide

Data Frequency: Annual wood consumption and trade data

Data Currency: 1999, 2000

Data Source: Data for this indicator are from the USDA Forest Service, Forest Products

Laboratory reports on U.S. Timber production, trade, consumption, and price statistics; Forest Products Laboratory report on woody residual recycling; and American Forest and Paper Association reports on paper, paperboard and woodpulp.

Data Reliability: Data on recovery and reuse of wood from municipal waste and construction

waste and demolition are not complete. Estimates are only available on total that is recovered or unavailable. Data on solid wood recycling are only for limited industries such as pallet manufacture. Data on use of yard trimmings, municipal solid waste, construction and demolition waste are not included.

References:

American Forest and Paper Association. 2001. Paper, paperboard and woodpulp,

2001 statistics, data through 2000. Washington, DC. 82 p.

Howard, J.L. 2001. U.S. Timber production, trade, consumption, and price statistics, 1965-1999. FPL-RP-595. Madison, WI: U.S. Department of

Agriculture, Forest Service, Forest Products Laboratory. 90 p. (http://www.fpl.fs.fed.us/documnts/FPLrp/fplrp595/fplrp595.htm)

McKeever, D.B. 1999. How woody residuals are recycled in the United Stated.

Bio Cycle. 40(12): 33-44.

(http://www.fpl.fs.fed.us/documnts/pdf1999/mckee99a.pdf)

Indicator and Title: Indicator 34 – Supply and consumption/use of non-wood products.

Indicator Lead: Susan Alexander, USDA Forest Service

Data Coverage: All U.S. forest land

Data Frequency: Varies, intermittent to annually

Data Currency: 2002

Data Source: Game animals, fur bearers- State and Federal wildlife agencies.

Medicinals, Food and forage species, floral and horticultural species, resins and oils, arts and crafts- market reports, USDC Bureau of the Census export data (US Harmonized Tariff Code System), U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service and U.S. Department of Interior, Bureau of Land Management permit data, local and

regional surveys.

Secondary wood products: USDA Forest Service and USDI Bureau of Land Management permit data, USDC Bureau of Census data, and USDC Bureau of

Economic Analysis data.

Data Reliability: Varies by product category, no standardized system

References:

Alexander, S. J.; Weigand, J.F.; Blatner, K.A... 2002. U.S. commerce in nontimber forest products. In: Jones, E.T.; McLain, R.J.; Weigand, J.F., Eds. Nontimber forest products in the United States. Lawrence, KS: University Press of Kansas. 424 p.

U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census. 2002. Statistics of U.S. businesses 1992, 1997, 1998, 1999. Web site: http://www.census.gov/

U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis. 2002. Web site: http://www.bea.doc.gov/

Indicator and Title: Indicator 35 – Area and percent of forest land available for general recreation

and tourism, in relation to the total area of forest land.

Indicator Lead: Ken Cordell, USDA Forest Service

Data Coverage: Nationwide

Data Frequency: 10-year interval

Data Currency: 1997

Data Source: The USDA Forest Service, Research and Development, Forest Inventory and

Analysis (FIA) program. FIA is mandated under the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Research Act of 1978 (PL 95-307, as amended), which replaced the McSweeney/McNary Act of 1928, directing the Secretary of Agriculture to collect, analyze, and periodically report information about renewable resources of the Nation's forest, range, and related lands. Except for nonindustrial forest land, area and percentage of forest reported for this indicator focuses on public and industrial land "available", i.e., open to access for recreation uses to some people, exclusively and inclusively, rather than "managed for general recreation". The second source covering nonindustrial private forest land was the USDA Forest Service Research and Development's National Survey on Recreation and the Environment (NSRE). In

a population-wide survey, land owning respondents were identified and data were

collected concerning recreationally available forest area.

Data Reliability: Management for recreation is a vague term that could refer to levels of

management ranging from developed and intensively maintained and patrolled to accessible but with no effort at maintenance or oversight. For the first data source, FIA field surveys are designed to provide reliable forest area data at +/-3 percent per million acres of forest area and +/-5 percent per billion cubic feet

of volume. Historic estimates prior to FIA field inventories have been

developed from FIA trend data on forests and U.S. Bureau of the Census data on forest land cleared for farming since 1850. For the second data source, the NSRE, estimates are reliable at +/- 3 to 5 percent, depending on sample size.

References:

Smith, W.B.; Vissage, J.S.; Darr, D.R.; Sheffield, R.M. 2001. Forest Statistics of the United States, 1997. Gen. Tech. Rep. NC-219. St. Paul, MN: U.S. Department of Agriculture: Forest Service. 191 p.

FIA statistics, online databases, references, and a map of U.S. forest distributions are available at http://fia.fs.fed.us.

Documentation can be found at www.srs.fs.fed.us/trends/Indicators/Documentation or is available in hard copy by request to smou@fs.fed.us.

Indicator and Title: Indicator 36 – Number and type of facilities available for general recreation and

tourism in relation to population and forest area

Indicator Lead: Ken Cordell, USDA Forest Service

Data Coverage: Nationwide

Data Frequency: 10-year interval

Data Currency: 1992-2000.

References:

Data Source: Forest Service, National Outdoor Recreation Supply Information System (NORSIS).

NORSIS is a combination of original survey data and secondary source data. Public

agency facilities data are from ongoing inventories maintained by individual

agencies, federal and state. State park system data are from the National Association of State Park Directors. Campground data are from Woodalls and Rand McNally directories. Estimates of facilities on private nonindustrial forest lands are from the National Survey on Recreation and the Environment (NSRE), USDA Forest Service, Research and Development. Landowning respondents to the survey were asked to

inventory day and overnight facilities.

Data Reliability: Direct measures and data are largely unavailable for enumerating number and

type of facilities for general recreation and tourism in forested settings.

Although federal and state agencies maintain data on the sites and facilities they manage, each agency uses different formats and content, and none record whether such facilities are in forest settings. Except for campgrounds, measures less direct than inventory counts of federal and state facilities are used for this report for both levels of government. Inventories of public sector facilities are improving in reliability. Estimates of numbers and types of facilities on

nonindustrial private forest lands are derived from nation-wide survey sampling

reliable at +/- 3 to 5 percent.

State Parks database compiled from State Departments of Natural Resource web

sites, literature and brochures, 1995. USDA Forest Service, Southern Research

Station.

Forest cover source is: USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, 1992

National Resources Inventory.

Recreational Opportunities on Federal Lands, 2002. www.recreation.gov.

Woodall's Campground Directory, 1996.

National Survey on Recreation and the Environment (NSRE at

www.srs.fs.fed.us/trends)

Indicator and Title: Indicator 37— Number of visitor days attributed to recreation and tourism in

relation to population and forest area

Indicator Lead: Ken Cordell, USDA Forest Service

Data Coverage: Nationwide

Data Frequency: 10-year interval

Data Currency: 1983-2001.

Data Source: USDA Forest Service, Research and Development, National Survey on

Recreation and the Environment (NSRE) and USDA Forest Service, Research and Development, National Visitor Use Monitoring Project, Department of

Commerce- Bureau of the Census.

Data Reliability: All percentages and figures shown are based on NSRE data collected (n=22,847)

up to the time this document was written. As data collection proceeds toward the ultimate goal of 75,000 completed interviews, reliability of estimates reported for this indicator will improve. As of this reporting, estimates are

reliable at +/- 2 to 3 percent.

References:

National Survey on Recreation and the Environment 2000-2001, Versions 1-11, July 1999 to November 2001. USDA Forest Service, Athens, GA. NSRE at

www.srs.fs.fed.us/trends

Indicator and Title: Indicator 38 – Value of investment, including investment in fast growing, forest

health management, planted forests, wood processing, recreation, and tourism.

Indicator Lead: Dave Wear, USDA Forest Service

Data Coverage: Nationwide

Data Frequency: 10-year interval.

Data Currency: 1983-2001.

Data Source: Direct investment in forest establishment and regeneration is measured. In

addition, we measure changes in the total stock of forests to estimate net investment. This measures the contribution of direct investment and growth, net of activities that reduce forest stocks such as land use conversions and timber harvests. Investment in forest establishment is tracked and reported by the USDA Forest Service in annual tree planting reports (e.g. Moulton et al. 1995, Moulton 2000). We report the area of tree planting for the United States

from 1930 through 1998.

Data Reliability: Tree planting is only one type of forest management activity. Timber stand

improvement activities also are direct investments in forests and are not captured by available data sets. Measures of inventories and of forest capital provide an evaluation of investment relative to timber production alone. Although growing stock also may proxy for growth in the provision of other benefits, this is an incomplete assessment of the accrual of all forest values. Data on new capital investment are most but not all of investment in assets. There is also a smaller amount of investment in used capital equipment. Investments are offset by retirements of equipment. In 1997 there was a change in measurement of capital assets from "Gross book value of depreciable assets" to "Gross book value of total assets". The latter measure is larger. So, changes

in assets after 1997 are not strictly comparable to changes before 1997.

References:

Haynes, R. 2003. An Analysis of the Timber situation in the United States: 1952 to 2050 – a technical document supporting the 2000 USDA Forest Service RPA timber assessment. Gen. Tech. Rep. PNW-560. Portland, OR: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Pacific Northwest Research Station. 254 p. (http://www.fs.fed.us/pnw/sev/rpa/)

Moulton, R.J.; Lockhart, F.; Snellgrove, J.D. 1995. Tree planting in the United States--1994. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, State and Private Forestry. 18 p.

Moulton, R. J. 2000. Tree Planting in the United States--1998. Tree Planters' Notes 49(1): 5-15. http://www.rtp.srs.fs.fed.us/econ/pubs/misc/rjm001.pdf

Smith, W.B.; Vissage, J.S.; Sheffield, R.M.; Darr, D.R. 2001. Forest resources of the United States, 1997. Gen. Tech. Rep. NC-219. St. Paul, MN: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service. 109 p. (http://fia.fs.fed.us/library/final_rpa_tables.pdf)

U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census. 1981. 1977 Census of manufacturers, volume II industry statistics, part 1 – major industry groups 20-26. (Industry series covering lumber and wood products, furniture, and paper and allied products). Washington, DC.

U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census. 1985. 1982 Census of manufacturers. (Industry series covering lumber and wood products, furniture,

and paper and allied products). MC92-I-24A to -24D, MC92-I-25A to 25B, MC92-I-26A to -26C. Washington, DC.

- U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census. 1990. 1987 Census of manufacturers. (Industry series covering lumber and wood products, furniture, and paper and allied products). MC92-I-24A to -24D, MC92-I-25A to 25B, MC92-I-26A to -26C. Washington, DC.
- U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census. 1995. 1992 Census of manufacturers. (Industry series covering lumber and wood products, furniture, and paper and allied products). MC92-I-24A to -24D, MC92-I-25A to 25B, MC92-I-26A to -26C. Washington, DC.

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Indicator and Title: Indicator 39 – Level of expenditure on research and development, and

education

Indicator Lead: Ken Skog, USDA Forest Service

Data Coverage: Nationwide

Data Frequency: 10-year interval

Data Currency: 1978-2001

Data Source: Forestry research funding at U.S. universities that are partially funded by the

Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service by RPA Region, 1995-2000 (thousand 1996 dollars). Funding for USDA Forest Service Research, 1978-2000 (million 1996 dollars). University Extension staff years devoted to forest land related activities, selected years 1989-2004. Extension staff years on forest land related activities per million acres of forest land,

selected years, 1989-2004.

Data Reliability: The data on research and development related to forest land management at

universities only includes universities that obtained some funding through the USDA Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service. This includes most of forest land management research funding but not all. The data include industry funding of research at universities, but we do not show data on

research funded and conducted by industry.

The data on extension education are for efforts focused on forest land management and do not include funding for Extension that may partly include forest land such as outdoor recreation, fish and wildlife or the environment and

public policy.

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Indicator and Title: Indicator 40 – Extension and use of new and improved technologies

Indicator Lead: Ken Skog, USDA Forest Service

Data Coverage: Nationwide

Data Frequency: 10-year interval

Data Currency: 1996-2000

Data Source: Forest Service, Forest Products Laboratory

Data Reliability:

Only brief narratives have been provided that serve to indicate the range of technology innovations that are having an effect on forest management. We have made only brief mention of areas of technology change that have extensive and complex impact – particularly the role of electronic media increase demand for some types of paper and paperboard and decreasing demand for other types.

The data do not indicate how innovations in wood and paper products may have a wider environmental impact beyond the impact on forest management. That is, the total life-cycle effects in terms of energy costs and emissions of alternate technologies to grow, harvest, process, use, reuse, and dispose of wood and paper.

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Howard, J.L. 2001. U.S. Timber production, trade, consumption, and price statistics, 1965-1999. FPL-RP-595. Madison, WI: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest service, Forest Products Laboratory. 90 p. (http://www.fpl.fs.fed.us/documnts/FPLrp/fplrp595/fplrp595.htm)

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Spelter, H.; McKeever, D.; Durbak, I. 1997. Review of the wood-based panel sector in United States and Canada. Gen. Tech. Rep. FPL–99. Madison, WI: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Forest Products Laboratory. 45 p. (http://www.fpl.fs.fed.us/documnts/fplgtr/fplgtr99.pdf)

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Indicator and Title: Indicator 41 – Rates of return on investment.

Indicator Lead: David N. Wear, USDA Forest Service

Data Coverage: Nationwide

Data Frequency: Annual planting data. Five to ten year RPA national assessment data. Annual tree

planting reports.

Data Currency: 1997 (inventory), 2001 (timber capital)

Data Source: Data on valuing forest capital for private forest investment and softwood

production in the South were developed by Wear (1993). In other regions, stumpage prices and inventory volumes were used to provide a rough estimate of forest asset value. A measure of the rate of return to forest production was then estimated as the ratio of net revenue to asset value. Price and volume data for each component of the inventory by region and year were taken from Smith et al. (2001) and Haynes (2002, table 15). The quantities of timber products by species group and region for benchmark years were taken from various USDA Forest Service reports (Smith et al. 2001, Powell et al. 1993, Waddell et al.

1989, and USDA Forest Service 1965, 1982).

Data Reliability: Because these aggregate indices reflect the net results of investment across a

variety of forest owners—e.g., public and private, active and passive—they do not provide a means for assessing the comparative attractiveness of investment in the forest products sector versus other sectors of the economy. These measures focus strictly on returns to timber production and so are limited in

their scope.

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Wear, D.N. 2002. Timber capital accounts for the United States. Draft manuscript. Research Triangle Park, NC: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service.

Indicator and Title: Indicator 42 – Area and percent of forest land managed in relation to the total

area of forest land to be protected

Indicator Lead: Ken Cordell, USDA Forest Service

Data Coverage: Nationwide

Data Frequency: Ongoing with updating

Data Currency: 2000

Data Source: USDA Forest Service, Research and Development, National Outdoor Recreation

Supply Information System (NORSIS). This database is comprised of

inventories of land and water in protected status under jurisdictions of federal and state government agencies. Proportions of these protected areas that are forested are estimated from forest cover overlays maintained by the USDA Forest Service Remote Sensing Research Unit, Southern Research Station, Raleigh, North Carolina. Estimates of nonindustrial forest land in conservation easements are from the National Survey on Recreation and the Environment (NSRE). Landowning respondents were asked to inventory land under conservation easement through state, local government, or through

nongovernmental organizations.

Data Reliability: Agency by agency inventories are increasingly reliable as agencies employ

digital data media and automated reporting systems. The NORSIS database is updated frequently as data are available. NSRE estimates of nonindustrial forest

land under conservations easements are reliable at +/- 3 - 5 percent.

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Southern Research Station, Raleigh, NC

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Indicator and Title: Indicator 43 – Non-consumptive forest values

Indicator Lead: Ken Cordell, USDA Forest Service

Data Coverage: Nationwide

Data Frequency: One time with some updating

Data Currency: 2000

Data Source: Few direct measures of nonconsumptive forest values are available for

reporting. Primary data source was survey data gathered through the U. S.

National Survey on Recreation and the Environment (NSRE)

www.wrw.fs.fed.us/trends/Nsre/nsre2.html.

Data Reliability: Means of estimates of consumer surplus values per activity day per person are

shown, along with ranges of estimates from studies done in the United States between 1967 and 1996. NSRE estimates are reliable at +/- 2 to 3 percent.

between 1967 and 1996. NSRE estimates are reliable at +/- 2 to 3 percent.

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Indicator and Title: Indicator 44 – Direct and indirect employment in the forest sector and the forest

sector employment as a proportion of total employment.

Indicator Lead: Ken Skog, USDA Forest Service

Data Coverage: Nationwide

Data Frequency: Periodic to annual.

Data Currency: 1995-2000.

Data Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, U.S. Department of the Interior, U.S.

Department of Agriculture, Forest Service.

Data Reliability: Employment in wood and paper products industries includes all employment in

firms where wood and paper products are their primary products. The level of employment related to nonwood forest products can be inferred to a degree by amounts of production provided by analysis and summaries of USDI Bureau of Land Management permit data, industry surveys, USDA Forest Service Sales Tracking and Reporting System (STARS), Harmonized Tariff Code data, and other data sources and analysis at regional or local levels, but rely heavily on local time-specific estimates and reports. Prominent data gaps include personal use and removals from private lands. Data presented on employees in research and development does not include support staff, which may double to triple the number of employees directly, employed by institutions conducting research.

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Indicator and Title: Indicator 45 – Average wage rates and injury rates in major employment

categories within the forest sector

Indicator Lead: Ken Skog, USDA Forest Service

Data Coverage: Nationwide

Data Frequency: Periodic to annual

Data Currency: 1995-2000

Data Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service,

National Association of State Foresters

Data Reliability: Employment in wood and paper products industries includes all employment in

firms where wood and paper products are their primary products. But these firms may produce other products and services also. Studies determining income for those collecting or harvesting nonwood forest products are intermittent and for regional or local areas. Studies assessing injury rates have not been found. Safety might be suggested by looking at safety for similar types of work in the agricultural sector. Data have not been found for wages and injury rates for employment in forest-based recreation and tourism or for education. The wage rates for research and education could be developed with limited additional research. The more detailed research may be needed to identify national or regional wages for forest-based recreation and tourism.

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Indicator and Title: Indicator 46 – Viability and adaptability to changing economic conditions, of

forest dependent communities, including indigenous communities

Indicator Lead: Richard Haynes, USDA Forest Service

Data Coverage: Nationwide

Data Frequency: Intermittent

Data Currency: 1990-200.

Data Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, periodicals, journals

Data Reliability: There are serious data limitations for assessing community viability and

adaptability at the national scale. Foremost, there is a lack of systematic community-level databases except in some unique cases (such as the Pacific Northwest) where they have been assembled as part of ecoregion assessments. Even where the data have been assembled, there are severe limitations for many ring contain alaments of community viability and adaptability.

measuring certain elements of community viability and adaptability.

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Indicator and Title: Indicator 47 – Area and per cent of forest land used for subsistence purposes

Indicator Lead: Marla Emery, USDA Forest Service

Data Coverage: Nationwide

Data Frequency: Intermittent

Data Currency: 1990-2000

Data Source: The Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Subsistence has

conducted research and gathered data on subsistence for more than 20 years. These data include quantitative measures of community harvest and use of subsistence resources, harvest volumes, and harvest areas. U.S. federal agencies including the Forest Service, Park Service, and Fish and Wildlife Service collect

similar data for lands that they manage in Alaska. Data collection has

emphasized use of fish and wildlife. Thus, fewer data are available on the use of plant materials. Qualitative studies and small-scale surveys have documented subsistence uses by communities throughout the lower 48 States. Similar studies have undoubtedly been conducted in Hawaii. However, the authors were not in possession of any at the time of reporting. The Alaska data appear to be the only large-scale quantitative measures of subsistence currently available in

the United States.

Data Reliability: Excellent longitudinal data sets on subsistence use of fish and game exist for

Alaska. Less information is available for subsistence use of plant materials in that state. Such data are almost completely lacking outside Alaska. However, small-scale surveys provide localized quantitative measures of participation in subsistence activities, and ethnographic research has yielded rich descriptions of the nature and meaning of these practices for various cultural groups throughout the Nation. Some quantitative data are being collected, but the coverage is inadequate to provide a complete measure of the area and percentage of forests used for subsistence throughout the United States. The Alaska context is legally

and demographically unique from that of the rest of the Nation.

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Indicator and Title: Indicator 48 – Clarifies property rights, provides for appropriate land tenure

arrangements, recognizes customary and traditional rights of indigenous people,

and provides means of resolving property disputes by due process

Indicator Lead: Paul V. Ellefson and Calder Hibbard, University of Minnesota

Data Coverage: Much of the data involved in the clarification of property rights are found in

Judicial case law. This information pertains at the local, state, and federal level. Compilations of federal statutes regarding restrictions on federal lands and usufructory rights has been compiled. Property rights laws in regard to forest land has been compiled at the state level, including statutes, which address nuisance laws, right-to-practice-forestry laws, and those laws restricting local ordinances. Case law also has been summarized as pertaining to indigenous people's property rights and due process. Studies also point to the number of property rights groups and volume of federal property rights legislation.

Data Frequency: These compilations and studies were not conducted with any measurable

frequency. Data collection varied as to need and funding for information

collection.

Data Currency: Late 1980s to mid 1990s

Data Source: Data from federal reports and compilations of statutes and case law. Data is also

found in periodic landowner surveys.

Data Reliability: The variables or combinations of variables that can be used to describe property

rights, land tenure arrangements, and ways of resolving disputes over such arrangements are many. Definition and scoping issues abound. Much information exists regarding property rights and land tenure arrangements as

they relate to sustainable forest management in the United States.

Unfortunately, a true understanding of these rights and arrangements in the context of forests and forestry is often unclear, primarily because information about them has not been gathered in a comprehensive sense not subject to any

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Indicator and Title: Indicator 49 – Provides for periodic forest-related planning, assessment, and

policy review that recognizes the range of forest values, including coordination

with relevant sectors

Indicator Lead: Paul V. Ellefson, University of Minnesota

Data Coverage: There are at least 26 federal statutes that require major agency-wide activities

involving the preparation of strategic program or land use and management plans for federal agencies. Statewide forest resource planning programs were actively underway in 47 states in 1982. In 1985, 29 states had completed first-generation

plans and were in the process of implementing them.

Data Frequency: Varies by need and funding to conduct studies. Most baseline data was collected

from mid 1980s to mid 1990s

Data Currency: Mid 1980s to mid 1990s

Data Source: Data provided by federal, state, and local agencies as well as reports summarizing

data from these sources

Data Reliability: There is considerable uncertainty regarding the capacity of governments to carry

out planning, assessment, and policy review activities. Over the years, there has been no organization or institution that has been assigned special responsibility to gather and prepare timely reports on the status of these activities. Thus consistency of data across states or regions is often difficult to assess. Additionally, the planning and analysis efforts of private forest landowners (industrial, nonindustrial, Indian, nonprofit) and nonfederal public owners, who control nearly two-thirds of the forest land, have been very much overlooked.

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Indicator and Title: Indicator 50 – Provides opportunities for public participation in public policy

and decision making related to forests and public access to information

Indicator Lead: Paul V. Ellefson and Calder Hibbard, University of Minnesota

Data Coverage: Data covers federal legislation requiring or facilitating public participation,

including laws that govern agency rulemaking, federal permitting, public meetings, public access to information, and planning processes. Numbers of national forest plan appeals are given as a measure of public participation and its effectiveness. Compilations of state laws in regards to open meetings, direct initiatives, and referendum authority are included, as well as numbers of state

advisory bodies through which the public may participate.

Data Frequency: These compilations and studies were not conducted with any measurable

frequency. Data collection varied as to need and funding for information

collection.

Data Currency: Mid 1980s to 2001

Data Source: Data are drawn from various studies and directly from the federal register.

Data Reliability: There is a relatively small body of empirical research regarding public

participation processes, especially in relation to forest and related natural resource issues. In large measure this void stems from problems defining the intent and appropriate scope of public participation and the lack of consistency in measures (standards) for judging the success of public participation processes. Even though many have offered generic criteria to assess public participation processes, the results of research using such criteria often remain unclear and indeterminate. Numerous studies have examined public participation in a case study format, but little compilation of these studies has occurred. Although very limited, research also has been undertaken to connect conflict management and public participation activities, testing the hypothesis that public participation processes provide a venue in which to constructively manage conflict.

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Indicator and Title: Indicator 51 – Encourages best practice codes for forest management

Indicator Lead: Paul V. Ellefson and Calder M. Hibbard, University of Minnesota

Data Coverage: The data cover a wide landscape including private initiatives and governmental

requirements. Types and numbers of certification efforts, both domestically and internationally, are addressed along with numbers regarding acreage enrolled. A compilation of federal laws with both direct and indirect prescriptions for best practice codes is provided. At the state level, data regarding numbers of programs, including type and focus, are assembled. Numbers of state agencies involved, training programs, and monitoring data are also summarized. Numbers

of local ordinances are given.

Data Frequency: Some of the data have been compiled at fairly regular intervals, though many of

the compilations and studies were not conducted with any measurable frequency. Data collection has varied as to the need of information and

availability of funding.

Data Currency: Most data used was collected in the late 1980s and in the 1990s

Data Sources: Data on best practice codes is drawn from a wide variety of sources, including

federal reports, various studies, and private-sector sources.

Data Reliability: Given the seemingly wide variety and large number of efforts that have been

made to compile information about legal and related structures that promote best practice codes, a logical conclusion might be that an ample supply of information has been accumulated and that informed judgments could be made about legal capacities to establish best practice codes and focuses them in positive ways on forest sustainability. This may be true in aggregate, yet such masks the existence of very serious information shortcomings. For example, current information about best practice codes is seldom capable of describing changing legal conditions within which codes are developed and implemented

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Indicator and Title: Indicator 52 – Provides for the management of forests to conserve special

environmental, cultural, social, and/or scientific values

Indicator Lead: Paul V. Ellefson and Calder Hibbard, University of Minnesota

The data can be grouped into information regarding private initiatives and **Data Coverage:**

> government capacity. The only information regarding private sector capacity is that in which organizations have self identified numbers of acres in some sort of protected status, such as conservation easements. The federal capacity is defined by the number of statutes requiring conservation of some value, amount of federally managed land under conservation or acquired land restriction, and amount of other land in protected status, such as wilderness and research natural areas. The state capacity is addressed by a number of studies identifying conservation programs or types of protection in regards to different mediums, such as the preservation of biological diversity. The amount of land in wilderness areas are also included. Local capacity is examined by using partial

compilations of land designations and programs.

Data Frequency: Most of the compilations and studies cited are not products of any regular

> assessment. Although some agencies and groups compile some of this information on a regular basis, much is only sought when it is needed and

funding is available.

Late 1980s to 2001 **Data Currency:**

Data Source: Federal reports, national studies, and private sector information

Data Reliability: The variables or combination of variables that can be used to describe the legal

framework for conserving special values associated with forests are numerous and often conflicting. To some, the task is probably perceived as no more difficult than systematically assembling statutes, administrative rules and legal opinions. Such is certainly important. However, the troubling factor is determining exactly what information to gather, analyze, and present when making such an assemblage. In part, this difficulty arises because of the unclear

nature of the concepts associated with this indicator. Even if definition issues are addressed; many concerns remain regarding information adequacy.

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Indicator and Title: Indicator 53 – Extent to which the institutional framework provides public

involvement activities and public education, awareness, and extension programs,

and make available forest related information.

Indicator Lead: Paul V. Ellefson and Calder Hibbard, University of Minnesota

Data Coverage: The data used to assess this indicator is far ranging. Data regarding the private

sector capacity for public education is not available in a comprehensive form but is addressed by numbers of organizations involved in public education activities, periodicals published, and examples of programs and certification efforts. The federal capacity for this indicator is assessed by using statutes authorizing educational programs, examples of programs, staffing and funding levels of extension initiatives, and examples of technical assistance programs. State and local government capacity is addressed by looking at numbers of programs and

state environmental education initiatives.

Data Currency: Late 1980s to late 1990s

Data Source: Federal reports, national and regional studies, and from the private sector.

Data Reliability: The diversity in form and function of extension, educational, and technical

assistance programs raise many questions about the information required to adequately assess educational conditions considered necessary for forest sustainability and conservation. Educational programs are carried out in many ways by various organizations, which makes it difficult to describe the Nation's capacity to promote principles of forest sustainability via educational activities. Such a context suggests a number of information concerns that need to be addressed. Information about the status and condition of education initiatives, the need for investment in new or existing educational programs, processes by which information is communicated, effectiveness and efficiency of educational investments, knowledge and information networks, regional and national influences on educational initiatives, and regional and international

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Indicator and Title: Indicator 54 – Extent to which the institutional frameworks undertake and

implement periodic forest-related planning, assessment, and policy review,

including cross-sectoral planning and coordination

Indicator Lead: Paul V. Ellefson and Calder Hibbard, University of Minnesota

Data Coverage: The data covers planning, assessment, and policy and program review activities

at the federal, state, and local level. Statutes requiring federal planning activities are compiled and categorized by type of planning, coordination efforts, and updating requirements. Examples of efforts of a number of agencies are addressed, including the Forest Service, the Bureau of Land Management, the National Park Service, the Natural Resource Conservation Service, the Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Environmental Protection Agency. As there are no compilations of information addressing assessment activities, examples illustrate the current capacity. A comprehensive survey of policy and program review activities is also nonexistent, but numbers of policy analysts is used as a measure. At the state level, numbers of agencies and other entities involved in planning and policy review are given. The number of statewide forest planning efforts and types of planning are reviewed. There is very little information in

this regard for local initiatives.

Data Frequency: Most of the data has not been produced at a regular interval. Data

collection has varied as to need and availability of funding.

Data Currency: Early 1980s to present

Data Sources: Federal reports, legal documents, and studies

Data Reliability: The variables or combination of variables that can be used to describe planning,

assessment and policy and review activities, and the agencies and organizations involved therein, are numerous. To some, the task is probably perceived of as no more difficult than systematically assembling statutes, administrative rules, legal opinions, and the organizational setting. Such is certainly important. However, the problem is determining exactly what information to gather, analyze, and present when making such an assemblage. In part, this difficulty arises because of the unclear nature of definitions used to describe planning, assessment and policy analysis activities and the extent to which they are interconnected. Even if definition issues are addressed, many concerns

regarding information adequacy remain.

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Indicator and Title: Indicator 55 – Extent to which the institutional framework provides capacity to

develop and maintain human resource skills across relevant disciplines

Paul V. Ellefson and Calder Hibbard, University of Minnesota **Indicator Lead:**

Data cover a number of aspects regarding the indicator. Examples regarding the Data Coverage:

professional workforce are given as a measure of capacity, including numbers of FTEs and type of work for a number of federal agencies. Number of employees engaged in forestry programs at the state level is given. Though little is known about the magnitude of the workforce in private organizations, a measure of capacity is that collected in a survey on industrial forest professionals. Data were also compiled regarding formal education, continuing education, and certification and licensing. Information is provided describing accreditation of educational institutions, enrollment, faculty, degrees awarded, and placement. Examples of legal requirements for continuing education are addressed with examples of agency and university offerings. As certification and licensing programs most often have educational requirements, numbers of state programs

are given as a measure of capacity.

Most of the data was not collected at regular intervals, but was collected **Data Frequency:**

according to need and funding availability.

Data Currency: 1980 to present

Data Source: Federal reports, organizational surveys, and studies

Data Reliability: The Society of American Foresters, Society of Wood Science Technology, and

the Food and Agriculture Educational Information System (FAEIS) are major sources of information about professional and related education programs important to forest sustainability. As for information about continuing education programs focused on resource professionals, technicians, and timber harvesters, no known sources of comprehensive information about such programs have been established. Similarly, information about formal and continuing education programs involving other resource fields or professionally forest-related programs also has not been gathered and synthesized in a

comprehensive sense. Where such data does exist, the information is not always comprehensive not capable of being aggregated and usefully summarized. Furthermore, the available information often lacks a concerted focus on education as an important element to maintaining human resource skills across

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Indicator and Title: Indicator 56 – Extent to which the institutional framework provides for the

> development and maintenance of efficient physical infrastructure to facilitate the supply of forest products and services and support for forest management.

Data Coverage: The data are used to reflect the private, federal, state, and local capacity of this indicator. Although there are few available measures, private investment in

Paul V. Ellefson and Calder Hibbard, University of Minnesota

infrastructure may be extrapolated by examining capital expenditures of private firms and individuals. Federal, state, and local capacity is addressed by expenditures in public works and capital outlays in the area of natural resources.

State capacity is also gauged by the number of executive agencies involved in

forest infrastructure investments.

Data Frequency: Much of the data included is collected regularly by the Bureau of the Census.

Some of the data is not collected regularly, only on a need and funding

availability basis.

Data Currency: Early 1990s to present

Indicator Lead:

Data Sources: Most data are compiled by federal agencies; however, some comes from

other sources such as surveys and studies

The diversity in form and function of infrastructure raises many questions about Data Reliability:

information required to adequately assess infrastructure conditions considered necessary to forest sustainability and conservation. In a strategic sense, there are a number of information concerns that need to be addressed. For example, there

is a pressing need for information about the status and condition of

infrastructure, need for investment in new or existing infrastructure, processes

by which infrastructure is provided, effectiveness and efficiency of

infrastructure investments, knowledge and information networks, regional and

national influences on infrastructure, and regional and international

comparisons.

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Indicator and Title: Indicator 57 – Extent to which the institutional framework enforces laws,

regulations, and guidelines.

Indicator Lead: Paul V. Ellefson and Calder Hibbard, University of Minnesota

Data Coverage: The data covers federal, state, and local requirements for enforcement. At the

federal level, the capacity is measured or estimated by using numbers of statutes, rules, and executive orders authorizing enforcement activities, court injunctions, numbers of employees involved in enforcement activities, budget requests, and numbers of violations. State capacity is assessed by compiling statutes granting enforcement authority, programs requiring enforcement, numbers of agencies engaged in enforcement activities, number of employees, intensity of enforcement, licensing requirements, and monitoring activities. Little

information exists as to enforcement activities at the local level, though a partial

assessment of local ordinances is available in assessing local capacity.

Data Frequency: Some of the data are collected on a regular basis, especially that referring to

enforcement activities of specific federal agencies. Other data are

collected on a need or fund availability basis.

Data Currency: Mid 1980s to present

Data Source: The sources of data are extremely diverse in regards to this indicator. Much of

the information comes from various studies, federal reports, and surveys.

Data Reliability: Information about enforcement of laws, rules, and guidelines that are considered

important to forest sustainability have been the focus of attention by many public and private organizations. In 1999, the National Association of State Foresters, sought a better understanding of state forestry agency information concerning enforcement. As best can be identified, no other organization has undertaken efforts to determine the nature and timeliness of information describing enforcement activities in the context of forest resources. Those which have been undertaken are not always comprehensive not capable of being aggregated and usefully summarized. Furthermore, the available information often lacks a concerted focus on the effectiveness of enforcement activities.

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Indicator and Title: Indicator 58 – Extent to which the economic framework provides for

investment and taxation policies and a regulatory environment which recognizes the long-term nature of investments and permit the flow of capital in and out of the forest sector in response to market signals, nonmarket economic valuations, and public policy decisions in order to meet long-term demands for forest

products and services.

Indicator Lead: Michael A. Kilgore and Paul V. Ellefson, University of Minnesota

Data Source: Data is derived from a number of studies, surveys, and federal reports.

Data Coverage: The data covers federal and state laws, policies, and programs, which are

pertinent to this indicator. At the federal level, income tax provisions, estate tax provisions, and fiscal incentive program appropriations are used as measures of capacity. At the state level, taxation programs and fiscal incentive programs are used as measures of capacity. State taxation programs focus on income, estate, and especially property taxation programs, both in number and type of program and in revenue produced. State fiscal incentive programs are addressed as to the

number and type of program along with the number of agencies involved.

Data Frequency: Some of the data is compiled on a regular on-going basis, but most has been

collected only periodically, such as in time of need or availability of funding.

Data Currency: Early 1980s to present

Data Reliability: Conditions contributing to the investment climate for forest management (for

example tax policy or cost-share programs) have been the subject of analyses and research and have resulted in periodic compilations and large-scale assessments of their condition and status. Unfortunately comprehensive, ongoing assessments of these factors and their collective influence on the investment climate for forest resources management are not occurring. Neglected is the centralized, systematic, and regular collection and analysis (on an ongoing basis) of information about federal and state programs that are designed to encourage long-term investment in forest resource management. Currently, such information (program type, scope, and investment levels) is scattered among a variety of public and private organizations. Information gaps are especially noticeable regarding use and effectiveness of various public

policies and programs directed at forest landowners.

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Wigley, T.B.; Melchiors, M.A. 1987. State wildlife management programs for private lands. Wildlife Society Bulletin 15: 580-584.

Indicator and Title: Indicator 59 – Non-discriminatory trade policies for forest products

Indicator Lead: Denise Ingram, USDA Forest Service

Data Coverage: There are many executive and legislative branch actions that potentially affect trade.

These actions have not been systematically reviewed to determine their effects on forest products trade. No agency currently has this responsibility. This review gives examples of various actions that have been taken and suggests the need for further

study.

Data Frequency: Trade data are published monthly by the Department of Commerce. Analyses of

these data are generally related to a specific trade action such as duties on softwood lumber from Canada. There are no known studies of the non-discriminatory aspects

of U.S. trade policies affecting forest products.

Data Currency: The discussion in the report is for the situation as of about 2001.

Data Source: Trade organization reports, U.S. Department of Commerce.

Data Reliability: Trade data are generally reliable for timber products. Data for nontimber forest

products are not complete and often are reported in obscure categories. The reliability of analyses of these data depends on the authors' care in conducting

the analyses.

References:

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the tropical timber trade. London, UK: Earthscan Publications Ltd.

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U.S. Department of State. 2002. The language of trade: chronology of major

trade developments affecting U.S. trade policy. Washington, DC:

http://usinfo/trade/language/chron.txt.

Indicator and Title: Indicator 60 – Availability and extent of up-to-date data, statistics, and other

information important to measuring or describing indicators associated with

criteria 1-7

Indicator Lead: David Darr, USDA Forest Service

Data Coverage: Nationwide

Data Frequency: One-time analysis

Data Currency: 2002

Data Source: Indicator leads. This was an analysis of availability and extent of up-to-date data,

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statistics, and other information important to measuring or describing indicators

associated with criteria 1-7.

Indicator and Title: Indicator 61 – Scope, frequency, and statistical reliability of forest inventories,

assessments, monitoring and other relevant information.

Indicator Lead: W. Brad Smith, USDA Forest Service

Data Coverage: Nationwide

Data Frequency: One-time analysis

Data Currency: 2002

Data Source: Indicator leads. This was an analysis of the scope, frequency, and statistical

reliability of forest inventories, assessments, monitoring, and other relevant information. Coverage, frequency, and frequency of data were reported by each

indicator lead and summarized for this indicator.

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Indicator and Title: Indicator 62 – Compatibility with other countries in measuring, monitoring and

reporting on indicators

Indicator Lead: Rob Hendricks, USDA Forest Service

Data Coverage: Seven indicators compared for 12 Montreal Process countries [Argentina, Australia,

Canada, Chile, China, Japan, Republic of Korea, Mexico, New Zealand, Russia,

United States, and Uruguay]

Data Frequency: One-time study of international data compatibility conducted by Montreal Process

Technical Advisory Committee at Portland, Oregon Workshop, August 26-31, 2001.

Data Currency: Most recent data for each country. U.S. data for 2002

Data Source: Country data for indicator 1 (extent of forest area), indicator 10 (area for forest

available for timber production), indicator 15 (area of forest damaged by insects, disease, fire, etc), indicator 19 (area and percent of forest managed for protective functions), indicator 26 (total forest biomass and carbon pool), indicator 44 (direct and indirect employment in the forest sector), indicator 61 (scope, frequency, and reliability of forest inventories). U.S. data from 2003 Sustainability Report.

Data Reliability: Data for the United States is of varying reliability. See each of the selected

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indicators in this report for indicator reliability. See the Montreal Process web site under references to review the TAC multi-country comparative results for

the seven indicators listed above.

References: http://www.mpci.org/meetings/meetings_e.html

Indicator and Title: Indicator 63 – Development of scientific understanding of forest ecosystem

characteristics and functions

Indicator Lead: Dave Darr, USDA Forest Service

Data Coverage: Nationwide

Data Frequency: One-time survey

Data Currency: 2001

Data Reliability: The survey covers USDA Forest Service Research and Development, six

companies in forest industry and most universities with Forestry schools. It does not include other public agencies with research, teaching, or extension

capacities.

Data Source: A review of the capacity to conduct and apply research and development aimed at

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improving forest management and delivery of forest goods and services. A report on

file with David Darr, USDA Forest Service, Washington, DC.

Indicator and Title: Indicator 64 – Development of methodologies to measure and integrate

environmental and social costs and benefits into markets and public policies and to reflect forest related depletion or replenishment in national accounting

systems.

Indicator Lead: Linda Langner, USDA Forest Service

Data Coverage: Nationwide

Data Frequency: One-time assessment of methods and status of efforts to revise or augment national

accounting systems

Data Currency: 2002

Data Source: Literature that reviews current methodologies relevant to the indicator. The primary

source on the status of national accounting efforts was: Nordhaus and Kokkelenberg

(1999).

References:

Nordhaus, W.D.; Kokkelenberg, E.C., eds. 1999. Nature's numbers: expanding the national economic accounts to include the environment. Washington, DC:

National Academy Press.

Indicator and Title: Indicator 65 – New technologies and the capacity to assess socioeconomic

consequences

Indicator Lead: David Darr, USDA Forest Service

Data Coverage: Anecdotal

Data Frequency: Data not published for total capacity

Data Currency: 2002

Data Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service

Data Reliability: Anecdotal information was used for the summary. Further research is needed to

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collect more detailed data.

References: None published

Indicator and Title: Indicator 66 – Enhancement of ability to predict impacts of human

intervention on forests

Indicator Lead: Dave Darr, USDA Forest Service

Data Coverage: Nationwide

Data Frequency: One-time survey

Data Currency: 2001

Data Source: A review of the capacity to conduct and apply research and development aimed at

improving forest management and delivery of forest goods and services. A report on

file with David Darr, USDA Forest Service, Washington, DC.

Data Reliability: The survey covers USDA Forest Service Research and Development, six

companies in forest industry and most universities with. Forestry schools. It does not include other public agencies with research, teaching, or extension

capacities.

References:

Indicator and Title: Indicator 67 – Ability to predict impacts on forests of possible climate change

Indicator Lead: Steve McNulty, North Carolina State University

Data Coverage: Nationwide

Data Frequency: Metaanalysis and new model simulations

Data Currency: 2002

Data Source: A review of the capacity to conduct and apply research and development aimed at

better understanding the influence of climate change on forest sustainability and ecosystem function, and an assessment of management coping strategies to reduce

negative climate change impacts.

Data Reliability: The metaanalysis and new model simulations were peer reviewed by over 3,000

scientists, policymakers and land managers for accuracy of data and data interpretation as part of the National Assessment of Climate Change Impacts to

U.S. Forests.

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